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A History *of*
HAMPDEN COUNTY
Massachusetts

Editor
ALFRED MINOT COPELAND

Volume Two

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1902

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To the Memory

OF THE LATE

SAMUEL BOWLES

(1826–1878)

This volume is respectfully

Dedicated

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CHAPTER I.

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—THE SEAT OF JUSTICE OF HAMPDEN COUNTY

The history of the city of Springfield from the time of planting the first colony at Agawam, has been made the subject of at least half a dozen volumes from as many writers, each of whom has aimed to cover the ground in such a way that the reading public might know all that was necessary to be known of the annals of the locality. In a field so frequently invaded by historians of repute the twentieth century writer can hardly hope to furnish anything new in the history of the region, but as an essential part of the history of Hampden county the subject must be treated according to its importance.

Just fifteen years after the landing of the pilgrims at Plymouth settlements began to extend westward into the valley of the Connecticut river, where the Dutch from the Netherlands were making slow attempts at occupation for the purpose chiefly of trading with the Indians. The colonial history of New York records the fact that as early as 1614 Dutch navigators had discovered the Connecticut and had made explorations of the country between that and the Hudson river previous to 1630, but it was not before 1635 that the sturdy Hollanders established a trading post in the Connecticut valley and disputed the right of the English settlers in the region. The Dutch were excellent traders, but were poor colonizers, while the English were both traders and colonizers. The chief articles of trade which the Dutch bartered with the Indians were rum and guns, the former of which was eagerly sought for the temporary gratification of the savage appetite, while the latter was useful to the warrior and hunter alike, as the English afterward learned to their se-

vere cost. But the Indians at length learned that the New England traders could supply them with gaudy cloths and trinkets, hatchets and knives, and also that wampum (money substitute) was plenty among them; therefore they carried their beaver skins to the eastern plantations and made known to the whites the first understanding the latter had of the Connecticut valley country. Through their representations the region was visited and explored, and through their expressed willingness to part with a portion of their domain a number of adventurous planters of the Roxbury settlement established themselves at Agawam, on the Connecticut, where now is the metropolitan city of Springfield.

There is room for the belief that the New Englanders first visited the site of the city as early as 1634, and that an investigation of the character of the region was made at that time. The next year an application was made to the general court by certain of the Roxbury planters, requesting permission to settle in a remote part of the colony; which was granted, although with some hesitation, for then it was uncertain whether the region proposed to be settled was within the jurisdiction of the mother colony. In this year (1635) William Pynchon, the founder, John Cable, a carpenter, and John Woodstock, an Indian interpreter, came to the locality, and then the founder undoubtedly made a verbal agreement for the purchase of a considerable tract of land at Agawam, on both sides of the river. Cable, with the aid of Woodstock, built a house on the meadow lands west of the river, but on being informed by the natives that the locality was subject to annual overflow they removed to the east side and built another house on the city site.

The pioneers of Springfield came to occupy the land in the spring of 1636. They were William Pynchon, the founder in fact of the settlement and its guiding spirit for the next fifteen years, Henry Smith, son-in-law of the founder, Matthew Mitchell, Jehu Burr, William Blake, Edmund Wood, Thomas Ufford and John Cable. Tradition has it that Mr. Pynchon and Henry Smith were accompanied by their wives, and if such was the fact it may be assumed that the others who had families

brought them also at the time of the immigration. Past writers give us no clear light on this subject. We only know that the pioneers came, settled on the land and began its cultivation, and at the same time Mr. Pynchon completed his purchase from the natives and arranged a form of government for the plantation under the new proprietary. The latter was consummated before the Indian title was extinguished, and on May 14 a common ownership in the land was agreed upon. The compact itself was an admirably framed document, free from partiality and well adapted to the needs and interests of the colonists themselves as well as to those who might follow them into the region.

A reproduction of the articles at length in this chapter is unnecessary and merely an allusion to the expressed purpose of the pact will suffice for present purposes: "May the 14th, 1636.—We, whose names are underwritten, being by God's Providence ingaged together to make a plantation at and over against *Agam,* on Conecticot, doe mutually agree to certain articles and orders to be observed and kept by us and by our successors, except we and every of us, for ourselves and in our persons, shall think meet oppon better reasons to alter our present resolutions."

"Ily. Wee intend, by God's grace, as soon as we can, with all convenient speede, to procure some Godly and faithfull minister, with whom we purpose to join in church covenant, to walk in all the ways of Christ."

The eight men whose signatures were affixed to the agreement were those mentioned in a preceding paragraph. They were the founders of Springfield, and to them must be accorded the honor of having laid the foundations of the town and subsequent city, although none of them were permanent residents of the locality and none of them died here. Two months after the agreement was signed the proprietors secured a conveyance of the land from the Indians, the instrument bearing date July 15, 1636. It was the source of our land titles, subject only to the title vested in the colonial government by the grants and charters from the crown, the latter being acquired by discovery, occupation and conquest.

The agreement, with later modifications, established a common ownership in the lands and allotted by mutual consent the parcels according to the interests and needs of each member of the community, with full justice in every case. A little later, when a more perfect form of government had been framed, the town became owner of the lands and allotted[1] them upon the approval of the freemen or their representatives. No unfit person was permitted to dwell in the plantation, and if any such were discovered they were "disallowed" and their improvements, if any had been made, were paid for out of the common funds. Such an establishment of government in existence at the present time would be regarded as a "community," which, while not wholly intolerable nevertheless would be looked upon as inconsistent with the economy of American institutions.

In connection with the mention of the founders of the new colony and their settlement at Agawam, the names of still others are to be noted and recorded as of the same year, and while they appear not to have participated in the proceedings relating to the agreement and the division of the land, they are worthy of at least passing notice in these annals. They were Richard Everett, Joseph Parsons, John Allen, Thomas Horton, Faithful Thayler and John Townes, each of whom was a subscribing witness to the Indian deed before mentioned; and also John Pynchon, son of the founder, a boy of fourteen years, and who in later years in a great measure replaced his father in influence in the colony, in the performance of good works, and in the affections of the settlers. He died in the town in 1703.

Within a few days after the settlement by the founders was accomplished their number was increased by the arrival of Thomas Woodford, Samuel Butterfield, Jonas Wood and John Reader, each of whom added his name to the agreement and received an allotment of land.

The above mentioned persons who subscribed their names as witnesses to the Indian deed appear not to have formed a part

[1]The power to dispose of town lands afterward was vested in the selectmen, and so continued until 1663, when the granting of the lots was done by a specially chosen committee. The first committee comprised Capt. John Pynchon, Ensign Thos. Cooper, Benj. Cooley, George Colton, Rowland Thomas, Miles Morgan and Elizur Holyoke. The town proprietary system was abolished in 1685.

of the original proprietary although they were of the company of colonists. The theory has been advanced that they came in the capacity of employees, for there was need of their services, and having no direct interest in the transactions relating to the transfer of title they were proper persons to witness the execution of the deed. At this early day Mr. Pynchon evidently had gained a true insight into the Indian character and realized that it was prudent to secure as subscribing witnesses to his dealings with the natives every disinterested person in the community.

The extent of lands purchased was considerable, on both sides of the Connecticut, from Masaksicke (Longmeadow) north to the Chicopee river, and was described in the deed by parcels with special consideration for each. The main consideration paid, however, was 18 fathoms of wampum, 18 coates, 18 hatchets, 18 knives and 18 hoes. The minor considerations consisted of wampum, hatchets, etc., as specifically mentioned by various writers of contemporary history, and as set forth in the deed itself, recorded in Hampshire county July 8, 1679.

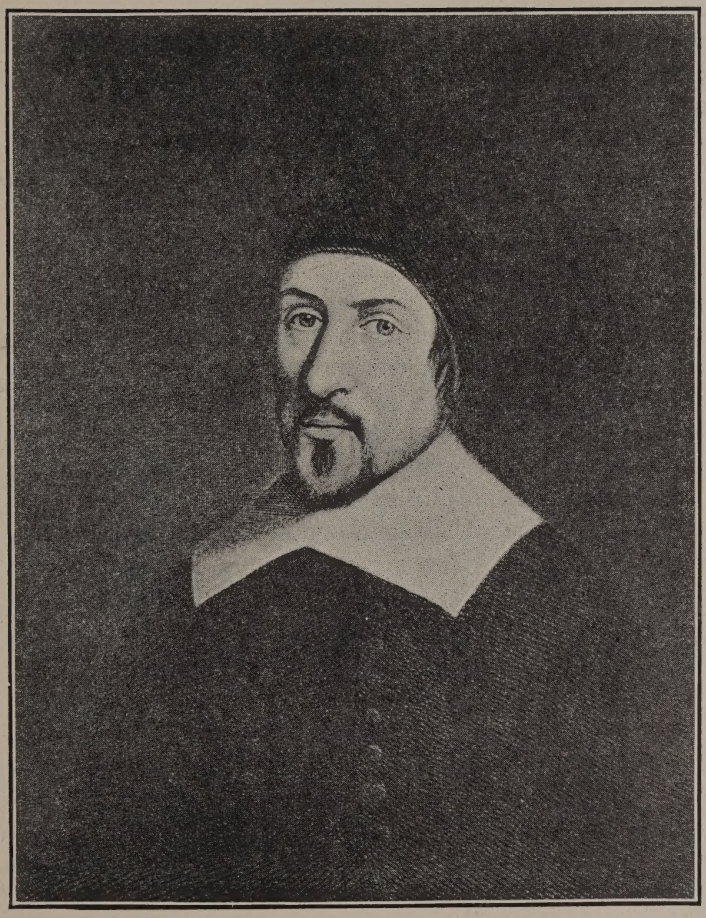
Having acquired and made division of the lands according to the agreement, the real work of development was begun. Lots were laid out at right angles with the river and varied from eight to fourteen rods in width. At a distance of about 80 rods from the river was laid out the "town street," substantially on the line of present Main street, but much wider than the latter. It was a crude and informal beginning of the town's history, yet it was sufficient for the time and in accord with the rules of propriety then observed.

Notwithstanding the favorable circumstances under which the foundations of the town were laid, none of the original colonists except the son of the founder remained long in the locality. Mr. Pynchon himself and Henry Smith, with several members of their families, left the place in 1652 and returned to England; and of all the pioneers (so far as an account tends to show) who settled the town in 1636 only John Pynchon was a permanent resident here. Matthew Mitchell, Edmund Wood and Thomas Ufford removed in the course of a few months. Jehu Burr and John Cable soon abandoned the plantation for homes in Con-

necticut, and William Black took up his abode in Dorchester. Thus at the end of fifteen years from the time the plantation was founded not one of the pioneers, except Captain John Pynchon, remained. However, in the year last mentioned the settlement had grown in number of persons, new lands had been acquired and divided, and a new colony of factors were occupied with the varied avocations of life.

William Pynchon, the principal founder of Springfield and who in fact made most of its history during his residence in the town, was of English birth and parentage, a resident of Springfield, County of Essex (sometimes given as Essexshire), previous to his emigration to America as one of "The Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England," a company which was the recipient of the favor of King James under the grant of 1629. Evidently comprised of personages in favor with the crown, the company was given the extraordinary privilege of transferring its seat of government from England to New England; and as one of its chief promoters, as well as for personal advantage, Mr. Pynchon came to America and became a planter, a trader and ultimately the founder of a colony on the banks of the Connecticut, on the site of Springfield, the latter so named in 1641 in allusion to his old home seat in England.

Mr. Pynchon came to New England in 1630 with his wife (who died soon afterward) and four children, Ann, Mary (afterward Mrs. Holyoke) John and Margaret. He settled first at Dorchester and later located at Boston Neck, where he founded a plantation and also engaged as a trader, chiefly in beaver skins and furs. He held a king's commission as magistrate and assistant and in the affairs of the Massachusetts government was an important factor. Himself an officer of the court and having influence with persons high in authority, he readily persuaded them to grant permission to found a new colony in the western portion of the domain. His knowledge of the region had been acquired from the Indians with whom he had traded, and on their representations he visited the Connecticut valley and made explorations. Having perfected his plans he called around him those whose company and aid he required, sent their household



William Pynchon

goods and other effects around by way of the ocean and the Connecticut river, and then set out upon the journey to Agawam. After completing the bargain with the Indians and securing possession of the land, he established his family in a rude though comfortable house and began trading with the natives in the valley; and having been granted special privileges, he also traded in grain and like commodities which the Indians produced, as well as in furs.

The privilege of trading in grain, which was especially accorded to the founder, eventually led to complications and a feeling of dissatisfaction in the valley, and also to a separation of Agawam from the other colonies on the river. In a preceding chapter the reader will learn that the colonists in this region finding themselves separated from the mother plantations, established a system of government for their own convenience, and designated Mr. Pynchon as one of the magistrates of the court or council which met at Hartford. At the time the proceedings of this body in a way partook of the nature of a separation from the parent government, and in fact was so regarded by the settlers in the valley south of Agawam, although the affairs of the region were nominally in charge of commissioners appointed by the general court; and even the latter body for a time believed that the western plantations were separated from them in jurisdiction, as the proceedings for 1641 refer to the "return of Springfield to the jurisdiction of Massachusetts."

As is fully narrated in another part of this work, the Pequot war occurred in 1637 and resulted in the annihilation of that savage people and also in a condition of great distress among the colonies in the lower part of the Connecticut valley. To secure a requisite supply of corn for food Captain Mason, the hero of the war, visited Mr. Pynchon and asked permission to buy the needed corn from the Indians in the vicinity of Nonatuck, and expressed an intention to deal with them after his own soldier fashion, while Mr. Pynchon advised the more pacific methods which he previously had adopted in trading with them. A misunderstanding then arose and some feeling was shown on both sides. At length Captain Mason secured the needed corn, but

the charge was soon made that Mr. Pynchon was guilty of attempting to speculate at the expense of the other colonists. He was summoned before the court at Hartford, and that august body sustained the charges.

This led to the separation of Agawam from the other colonies in the valley and ultimately to a petition from Mr. Pynchon and others to be received into the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts general colony. The subject was duly considered, "referred and examined," and on June 2, 1641, "Springfield, upon Conecticott" was taken back into the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, and thenceforth was recognized as a town. This was the proceeding which various writers have mentioned as the "change of the name from Agawam to Springfield;[1]" and this was the action by which Springfield was regarded as an established town of Massachusetts, although it was not then annexed to any county, had no selectmen until 1644, and no representative in the general court until 1649.

In the affairs of the plantation at Agawam and in the early history of the town of Springfield Mr. Pynchon always was the chief figure and all his works tended to the public welfare. He was the local magistrate to settle the petty differences that arose among the colonists and his decrees and orders were characterized with fairness and justice. He was instrumental in establishing the parish and church, assisted in securing the services of a minister, and of his means gave liberally for the support of the gospel. He took part in the modification of the strict requirements of the orthodox church, but when he essayed to promulgate new doctrines through the publication of "The Meritorious Price of Man's Redemption," etc., he was promptly summoned before the court at Boston. He "justified" himself, however, and succeeded in establishing his innocence of wrong intent; but his book was ordered burned, and he was deprived of his magisterial office, being succeeded by his son-in-law, Henry Smith. He remained only two years longer in the town and then departed with his family for England.

[1]At a meeting of the town held April 16, 1640, it was "ordered that the Plantation be called Springfield," and in pursuance of that determination the general court recognized the name in 1641.

With the departure of Mr. Pynchon and Henry Smith and portions of their families, the old Agawam plantation had lost all save one or two of its original founders. John Pynchon remained as probably did his sister who married Elizur Holyoke. This was the first event of its kind in the town. But as rapidly as the first settlers left, their places were taken by new comers and at no time was the number of inhabitants less than during the first year in the history of the plantation. In 1637 Rev. George Moxon came and entered upon his duties as minister of the gospel. His was the only arrival during the year, and he returned to England in 1652. In the next year there came John Searle and Thomas Merrick, both of whom died here, the former in 1641 and the latter in 1704. After 1638 settlement became more rapid, and from that year until the creation of Hampshire county in 1662 the plantation was constantly increased by the arrival of settlers who sought to establish homes in the new and fertile region, where generous provision had been made by the founders for those in humble circumstances, yet who were willing to work to maintain themselves and their families. None others found more than temporary lodgment in the community, and it is a noticeable fact in connection with the early history of Springfield that idlers found no comfortable place for themselves in the town. If the settler was poor he nevertheless was welcome if he proved faithful to the orders of the town and was willing to work; if he proved unworthy in character, even if industrious, he was "disallowed."

After the close of the Pequot war the tide of settlement set strongly toward the Connecticut valley, and in the next half score of years the number of inhabitants in the region was more than doubled. The old town records, a fruitful source of information to the writer, disclose the names of nearly all the settlers, and the year in which their names were entered may be taken as a fair index of the time of their arrival. A study of the pages of the town books shows that in 1639 several new settlers were added to the local population, and a number of them brought families. The arrivals of that year included William Warriner, who died here in 1676; Rowland Stebbins, who re-

moved to Northampton and died there in 1671; Thomas and John Stebbins, sons of Rowland, the former of whom died in Springfield in 1683 and the latter in Northampton in 1679; John Leonard, who was killed by the Indians in 1676, a victim of King Philip's savage warriors; Robert Ashley, the progenitor of a numerous family of descendants and who died in 1682; John Woodcock, who removed to Connecticut in 1642; John Allen; Henry Gregory, who left in 1642; Samuel Hubbard; Samuel Wright and his sons Benjamin, Samuel, jr., and James, all of whom subsequently removed to Northampton. While perhaps a majority of the settlers who came in this year subsequently removed to other localities a few remained and were permanent residents in the town. A glance at the list will disclose family surnames that are still represented in Springfield by some of its well known citizens.

In 1640, the year in which the old name of Agawam was discarded and that of Springfield adopted in its stead by the settlers, the number of arrivals was less than in the preceding year, and included Henry Burt and his family, among the latter being his sons Jonathan, David and Nathaniel, all of whom were closely identified with the subsequent history of the town; Elizur Holyoke, who married a daughter of William Pynchon and who was one of the foremost men of the town in later years; John Dibble, who died in 1646. John Noble came in 1641 and died the same year.

The most prominent arrival in the town in 1642 was that of the family of Deacon Samuel Chapin, among whom were his sons Henry, Josias, David and Japhet. Deacon Chapin himself filled an important place in the early history of the town, and next to Mr. Pynchon was one of the most highly esteemed men in the community, his works and influence always being for good. He was one of the first selectmen and served in that capacity until 1652, when he was made "commissioner" with John Pynchon. In later years he again was chosen selectman, and in many other ways he contributed to the growth and prosperity of the place, in its public, social and religious history. His descendants have

The Deacon Samuel Chapin Statue

Deacon Chapin, who frequently is mentioned as "the Puritan," was a man of upright character in all the walks of life. His truly christian example in a large measure molded the character of those about him and left its impress upon succeeding generations

been numerous and include many of the foremost men of the city and county, some of whom have attained a high standing in business and public life. The splendid statue which adorns the open space adjoining the city library on State street was erected in memory of Deacon Chapin and is a worthy tribute of love and esteem. The "Puritan"—by this name he is frequently recalled—died in Springfield in 1675. Richard Sikes, who also in later years was a conspicuous figure in local history, came to the town in 1642.

The records for the year 1643 make mention of the names of Alexander Edwards, who afterward settled in Northampton, and died in 1690; John Dover; Morgan Jones, who died the same year; Francis Ball, who was drowned in 1648; Thomas Cooper, who was killed by the Indians at the time of the attack on Springfield in 1675; James Bridgman, who died in Northampton in 1676; Roger Pritchard, who soon removed to New Haven; Judah Gregory, who also settled in Connecticut; William Branch, who died here in 1683; John Matthews, who died in 1684; John Harmon, who died in 1661; and Benjamin Cooley, who died in 1684.

Among the settlers who are to be credited for the year 1644, the records disclose the names of Miles Morgan, who lived in the town until his death in 1699, and whose monument in Court square suggests the spirit of the times in which he was a conspicuous figure in local history. In the same connection mention is made of Abraham Munden, who was drowned at Enfield Falls in 1645. For the year 1645 we have the names of William Vaughn; William Jess, who was drowned at Enfield Falls in 1645; Francis Pepper, who died here in 1685; John Burrhall; Griffith Jones, who died in 1676; and James Osborn, who died in Hartford in 1676. In 1646 there were George Colton, whose family name for more than two centuries has been prominently mentioned in Longmeadow history and who died in 1699; John Clark, who died here in 1684; Thomas Reeve, who died in 1650; Richard Exell, who died in 1714; Margaret Bliss, widow of Thomas Bliss of Hartford, who came to the town with a large family of children and in consideration of her numerous progney

was granted additional lots (a portion of which lands are still owned by her descendants); Lawrence, Samuel and John Bliss, sons of Margaret, all of whom died in the town; Thomas Thomson, who soon removed elsewhere; Reice Bedortha, who was drowned in 1683; Hugh Parsons, who was charged with the sin of witchcraft, was tried in Boston and acquitted, and afterward settled in Watertown; John Lombard, who died here in 1672, and whose descendants were among Springfield's prominent men in later years; George Lancton, who removed to Northampton and died there in 1676.

The name of a single settler is credited to the year 1647, that of Rowland Thomas, who died here in 1698. In 1648 there were added the names of Thomas Sewell, who took the "oath of fidelity" Feb. 6, 1649, and Samuel Marshfield, who died in the town in 1692.

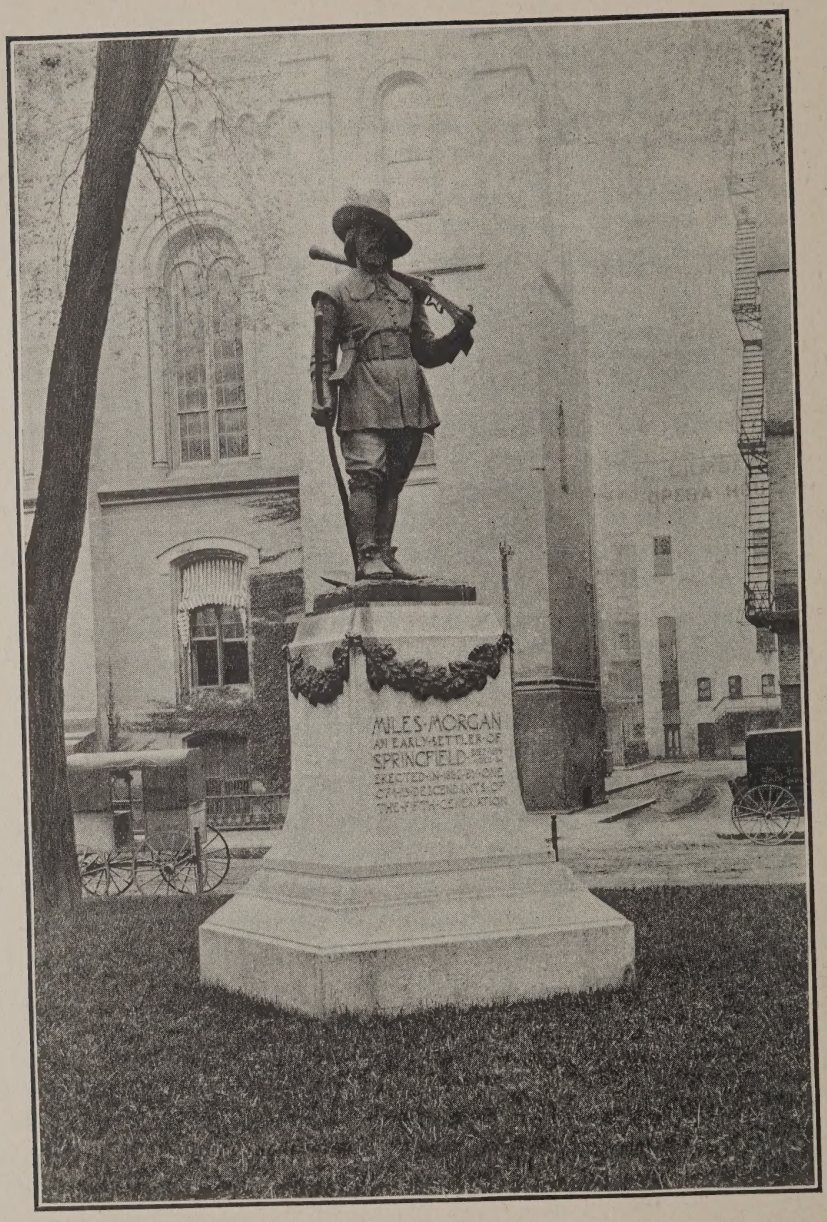
In 1649 several new names were added to the list of townsmen, among them being that of Anthony Dorchester, who died in 1683; Henry Walkley, who removed to Connecticut; Nathaniel Brown, who afterward settled in Middletown; Benjamin Munn, who died in 1675; Thomas Miller, who was killed by the Indians in 1675; and Jonathan Taylor, who died in Suffield in 1683. William Brooks, who settled in Deerfield and died in 1688, was the only person mentioned as having come to the town in 1649.

The names entered on the lists in 1650 were John Dumbleton, who died in 1702; John Stewart, who died in 1690; Edward Foster, who died at a ripe old age in 1720; Samuel Terry, who died in Enfield in 1731; Hugh Dudley and Richard Maund. Those credited to the year 1651 were Benjamin Parsons who died in 1689; Nathaniel Pritchard, who lived in the town until after 1691; and John Lamb, who died here in 1690. In 1653 Mr. Hosford, whose given name is not mentioned, and Thomas Bancroft, who died as early as 1684, are first noted on the books. In 1654 there are mentioned George Alexander; Simon Beaman, who died here in 1676; Obadiah Miller and Abel Wright, the latter of whom died in 1724. Simon Sackett and Thomas Gilbert came in 1655, the former dying in the town in 1659 and the latter in 1662.

Continuing still further the same line of narration, the records show that the settlers who came to the town in 1656 were John Gilbert, who petitioned for an allotment of land in Woronoco, but who did not settle there; Jonathan Gilbert, who at first sought to settle at Wethersfield but did not in fact; Thomas Noble, who acquired lands in Westfield, where he died in 1704, and from whom has descended some of the best men of that town; William Morgan, who was drowned in 1663; and John Riley, who died here in 1684. John Bagg is first mentioned in 1657, and his surname has been represented in all succeeding generations to the present time by men of worth and prominence in the civil and political history of the county. In 1658 we find the names of John Wood, who left in 1660; John Stiles, who was drowned at Windsor in 1683; Joseph Crowfoot, who removed to Northampton; Thomas Day, who died here in 1711; and Richard Fellows, who died at Hartford in 1663.

For the year 1659 mention is made of Pelatiah Glover, the settled minister of the church in Springfield from 1660 to 1692, when he died; John Scott, who died in Suffield in 1690; Tahan Grant; Nathaniel Ely, whose descendants have been numerous and prominent in the history of Springfield, Longmeadow and other towns of the county for many years; Samuel Ely, son of Nathaniel, and who died in 1690; Peter Swinck, supposed to have been the first negro settler in Springfield and who died in 1699. In the records for 1660 there are found the names of John Keep, who, with others, was killed by the Indians in 1676 while on the way from the settlement at Longmeadow to Springfield to attend religious worship; Quince Smith, who was received into the settlement on probation for two months and then was "disallowed" and warned to depart; Rev. Mr. Hooker, who ministered to the people of the parish for a few months.

In 1661 there appear the names of Charles Ferry, who died in the town in 1669; Elizabeth Hitchcock, widow of Luke Hitchcock, who with her two sons John and Luke afterward lived and died in the town and from whom have descended some of the best men of the county; Jeremy Horton who died here in 1682 and whose descendants have been prominent in succeeding genera-



Miles Morgan Statue, Court Square, Springfield

tions; John Horton; John and Samuel Harmon and John and James Dorchester, both of whom died here. In 1662 the new comers were John Petty, who died here in 1680; John Henryson, who removed to Connecticut and died there; William Hunter, who was killed by King Philip's warriors in 1676; James Taylor, who died here in 1720; Thomas Mascall, who was admitted as a settler from Windsor. Hugh Mackey and Thomas Thomson, a boy, are mentioned as having a seat in the meeting house in 1663, and John Barber, who died in 1712, is first referred to in the same year.

Among the various old records and documents of a historic character in the custody of the city clerk of Springfield is a paper in the handwriting of that worthy settler, Elizur Holyoke, which contains a list of names of the allowed freemen of the town, nearly all of them heads of families, in the year 1664. The paper reads as follows:

"February 1664."

"Here follows a Record or List of ye Names of the Townesmen, or men of this Towne of Springfield that is to say of the allowed & admitted Inhabitants, who they are this present Febr: 1664."

Rowland Thomas	Serj. Miles Morgan	John Clarke
Henry Chapin	William Branch	Rowland Stebbin
William Brooks	Capt. John Pynchon	Lawrence Bliss
John Bagg	Lieut Elizur Holyoke	James Osborne
William Hunter	Francis Pepper	John Harman
Peter Swinck	Timothy Cooper	Nath. Pritchard
Griffith Jones	Mr. Pelatiah Glover	Benjamin Parsons
Obadiah Miller	Deacon Sam'l Chapin	Widdow M. Bliss
John Henrison	Japhet Chapin	Sam'l Bliss
Richard Exell	John Stewart	John Matthews.
John Dumbleton	Thomas Noble	Anth. Dorchester
Jonathan Taylor	William Warriner	Rich. Sikes
Hugh Dudley	Serj. Tho. Stebbins	Jonathan Burt
John Baker	Benjamin Mun	John Lumbard
John Scott	David Ashley	Thomas Bancroft
John Riley	Abell Wright	Benjamin Cooley

Joseph Crowfoote	James Warriner	John Bliss
Edward Ffoster	Jeremy Horton	John Keepe
Thomas Miller	Symon Bemon	Nathaneel Burt
John Leonard	Thomas Day	Widdow Burt
Ens. Tho. Cooper	Charles Fferry	George Colton
Rice Bedortha	Thomas Mirick	Samuel Ely
Samuell Terry	Sam'll Marshfield	James Taylor
John Lamb	Nathaneel Ely	Jonathan Ball
Robert Ashley		John Horton

From what is stated in preceding paragraphs it may be seen that notwithstanding the generous provision made for the benefit of all worthy persons who chose to make their abode in the town, settlement in Springfield during the early years of its history was somewhat slow. In the time of the elder Pynchon it was the purpose of the founders to limit the plantation to forty families, which fact, with the investiture of the land proprietary in the town, had the effect to retard the growth of the locality. A glance at the list of settlers above furnished will show that almost a majority of those who came during the first few years of the town's history soon departed and established themselves in other places, many of them in Northampton and others in the colonies down the valley. These frequent removals leads to the conclusion that there was something in the order of things under the original founders that was distasteful to many of the first settlers, or that the Pynchon proprietary clung to the determination to limit the extent of the plantation; but there is no proof that such conditions prevailed, and it may be that the temporary settlement here was for the purpose of selecting the most desirable location on the part of the settlers.

The list of "allowed and admitted inhabitants" prepared by Elizur Holyoke in 1664 shows the names of seventy-four "townsmen" in Springfield at that time. Each of those mentioned presumably was the head of a family, and the number of actual inhabitants then in the town must have been more than three hundred. However, in that year Springfield was a jurisdiction of considerable size, amounting almost to a principality in area, and included portions of towns now within the state of Connecticut.

The proceeding of the general court in 1641, recognizing Springfield as a town, gave it no bounds, and even the act creating Hampshire county in 1662 furnished no more than indefinite boundaries for the greater jurisdiction.

When originally set off in 1636 Springfield was common land called Agawam, and Mr. Pynchon evidently had authority to acquire title to such portions of the entire region as he felt disposed to purchase from the Indians. More than that, when other lands were acquired by other proprietors, and were settled, but without sufficient population to warrant separate town organization, such localities were annexed to the mother town for purposes of local government. In the year following the first settlement at Agawam, owing perhaps to some slight differences among the inhabitants of the Massachusetts and Connecticut colonies, the boundary line between them was established, and a considerable area which formerly had been within the general Agawam plantation was separated from it, although the inhabitants there continued for some time under its general authority. In fact a part of the territory of what now is Connecticut originally was within the Agawam jurisdiction.

Of the several towns comprising Hampden county Springfield contributed of its territory to the formation, in whole or in part, of no less than thirteen of them.[1] First, in 1669, Woronoco was set off and called Westfield, and included all the town now so called together with Southwick and parts of Montgomery and Russell. Second, in 1763 the territory of original Wilbraham was set off and comprised, substantially, all the present town of that name and also what is now Hampden. Third, in 1774 the remaining portion of Springfield west of the Connecticut was set off to form West Springfield, and included all that is now Holyoke and Agawam.

The third subdivision of Springfield's territory was made in the latter part of February, 1774, when Ludlow was set off as a district. In the next year it was organized as a town. This

[1]In 1664 the town of Springfield fixed the bounds of Enfield and ordered that it be "accounted a part of Springfield" until the general court ordered otherwise.

town alone of all the old component parts of Springfield has not been called on to surrender its territory to later formations. The fifth subdivision was made in 1783 when Longmeadow was created, including nearly all of the present town so called, together with the comparatively new jurisdiction called East Longmeadow. The sixth and last reduction in area of the mother town was made in 1848, when Chicopee was set off. In 1890 a part of Longmeadow was annexed to Springfield and was brought within the jurisdiction of its city government.

During the first few years of its history it was a question whether the colonization scheme undertaken by Mr. Pynchon and his associates would be a permanent success, and some writers have inclined to the position that there was a time when the planters would have abandoned the settlement and returned to the eastern colonies. Such a feeling may have arisen when the Connecticut colonies began their work of persecution and arraigned Mr. Pynchon before the court at Hartford on the flimsy charge of speculation, resulting in a division and the separation of Agawam from its sister plantations in the valley. But this seeming hardship proved a blessing in fact and the little unprotected, struggling colony of planters gradually grew in strength and increased their lands. The goodly accession to the number of settlers during the years 1640-43 determined the permanency of the settlement, and from that time the increase was constant and healthful.

In 1642 a second allotment of lands was made and in 1645 a third division became necessary. In the latter year the Connecticut towns sought to impose a tariff on Springfield imports and exports shipped by way of the river. This attempt was resisted, and the feeling created by the events of the period threatened the peace of all the New England colonies. In 1646[1] the first annual town meeting was held (previous to this time the meetings had been held monthly) and in 1647 the proceedings were first regularly recorded.

[1]In this year George Colton and Miles Morgan were appointed to "do their best to get a smith (blacksmith) for the town," and later on the town bargained with Francis Ball for a shop for the smith, the building to be 12x16 feet and "six feet stud between joints."—*Town records.*

In 1648 the community was first plagued with the imaginary sin of witchcraft, growing out of a misunderstanding between settlers Parsons and Bedortha and the physical condition of the wife of the latter which now would be regarded as hysteria. But the infection at once caught in the plantation and even the good minister Moxon's family did not escape its ravages. The aid of the law and the general court was invoked during this period of disturbance, alleged witches were apprehended and brought to trial, but the most serious result was in the temporary disquiet in the plantation. Viewing such events in the enlightened age of the twentieth century we can only express surprise that our staid old forefathers could have been even temporarily misled by such vagaries of imagination, yet they did exist and an occasion is not wanting in which the punishment of death was visited on an unfortunate offender charged and convicted of witchery. Salem was a hotbed of witchcraft during the period in which that evil was honestly supposed to exist.

In 1650 Mr. Pynchon, who had been chiefly instrumental in founding and maintaining the colony at Agawam and who had been the guiding spirit in all the affairs of the plantation as well as being one of the magistrates of the court, published his famous book, "The Meritorious Price of Man's Redemption," which is referred to on an earlier page. While the results of this work, which has been called "the pioneer of religious thought and freedom," in no wise reflected on his character or his standing in the town, he nevertheless was much affected by the "burning" of his book; and after he had been deprived of his magisterial office he began preparations for departure. In 1652, having disposed of most of his property and other interests in the locality he, with his son-in-law, Henry Smith, returned to England. Mr. Moxon left during the same year, and thus Springfield lost three of its most upright pioneers.

On the departure of the elder Pynchon his son John succeeded to the vacant place in the town, and he is believed to have continued the business of trading, milling and selling merchandise. When the "head" of the church had departed the younger Pynchon ministered to the people by reading to them and occa-

sionally by addressing them from his "owne meditations." In addition to his services in this work, the town, in 1656, employed Deacon Wright, Deacon Chapin, Mr. Holyoke and Henry Burt to labor in the "Lord's work on the Sabbath" until a settled minister should be engaged. This laudable work was performed by these worthy pioneers until 1661, when Rev. Pelatiah Glover was settled as minister over the old First parish. The first meeting house was built in 1645 by Thomas Cooper, and was the first church edifice in the state west of Boston. Its size was 28x40 feet, and nine feet "between joints."

In 1662 the three Connecticut river towns of Massachusetts were incorporated as a county by the name of Hampshire, and Springfield was designated as the "shire town," as may be seen by reference to the creating act in another chapter of this work. If previously there had been any question regarding the permanency of the town all doubt was dispelled by this action. The three towns were Springfield, Northampton and Hadley, all flourishing settlements, that first mentioned being of the most importance. Northampton was not made a half-shire town but it was ordered that the courts should be held alternately at that place and Springfield.

The designation of Springfield as the seat of justice of a new county was the most important event in the early history of the town, and at once gave it a special prominence among the municipalities of the state, although many years passed before a court house was in fact erected. In 1659 Captain John Pynchon had built a large brick mansion house which served the double purpose of a residence and defensive fortress to be used in case of an attack from the Indians; and there is reason to believe that the hospitable owner frequently furnished entertainment to the stranger within his gates.

During the early years of the county's history, the Pynchon fort, as it is best recalled, was the place in which courts were held and so far as common belief tends to establish the fact, they continued to be held there until after the dawning of the eighteenth century. Some authorities are inclined to the belief that courts were frequently held in the old Ely "ordinary," or tavern, for

The old Ely "Ordinary," Springfield

The old Ely "Ordinary" in Springfield; licensed by the court in 1665 as a "house for common entertaynment, also for selling wines and strong liquors for the year ensuing, provided he (Nathaniel Ely) keeps good rule and order in his house." Landlord Ely was released from "trayning in ye town soe long as he continued to keep ye ordinary." The old ordinary was a famous hostelry in its day, and eventually was removed from its original site to the corner of Dwight and Sanford streets, where it was put to the base use indicated in the picture

which in 1665 Nathaniel Ely was licensed to furnish entertainment, refreshment and good cheer to villagers and travellers; and in consideration of the great good expected of him the worthy host was released from "trayning in ye towne soe long as he continues to keepe ye ordinary."

The Pynchon fort, or residence, stood near the corner of what now is Main and Fort streets, on ground occupied by the Fort block. It was in existence until 1831 and for more than a century was one of the most pretentious structures in the town.

In 1662, after Springfield had been designated as the shire town, the selectmen caused a house of correction to be built. It was located on the "road on the brow of the hill," or what now is Maple street. Captain Pynchon and Nathaniel Ely were appointed to lay out the road leading to the prison. Previous to this time the settlers had little need of a place of confinement, and while the construction of a house of correction was first mentioned in 1661, it was not until after the creation of the county that it was built. The worthy pioneers would not belittle the dignity and character of their place of abode by designating the house of correction as a "common gaol," and the structure was not built as a place in which offenders were to be punished, but rather where the evil course of the wrong-doer was to be corrected. In later years the name "jail" came into use in describing the county prison, but the general designation of house of correction is still preserved.

After the organization of the county and the settlement of the affairs of the town in connection with the new order of things, the people entered upon an era of progress and prosperity. From that time until the outbreak of King Philip's war there was nothing to disturb the peace of the community, but when the Connecticut river Indians began to show signs of discontent the inhabitants naturally were alarmed and took measures for the common defense. Of all the plantations that invariably had treated the Indians with generosity, Springfield undoubtedly stood at the head, but the prospect of conquering the whites was too much for the savage nature to resist, and it readily yielded to Philip's entreaties and without provocation the natives turned

against the people who had befriended and maintained them for years.

King Philip's war, the story of which is told in detail in an earlier chapter of this work, began in the spring of 1675, but the disaffection among the river tribes did not show itself until the latter part of the summer, when the scene of events was transferred from the eastern part of the colony to the Connecticut valley. The war was the most disastrous event in the early history of Springfield and nearly resulted in the abandonment of the settlement by its white population.

On October 5, 1675, Springfield was attacked and burned by the Indians, and Lieut. Cooper, Thomas Miller, Pentacost Matthews (wife of John Matthews) were killed. Four other persons were wounded, and one of them, Edmund Pringrydays, died a few days later. In all fifty-two buildings, including the house of corecction and Capt. Pynchon's corn and saw mill, were burned. Of the total number of buildings destroyed thirty-two were houses and twenty-five were barns with all their contents—the recently garnered products of the season.

On the day of the attack the town was practically defenseless except for the protection afforded by the fortified houses. The militia were away in the defense of Hadley, and upon their return the savages fled to the forests. Throughout the remainder of that year, and the next, the town was frequently visited by marauding bands of Indians, but beyond an occasional sneaking assault on some unguarded settler and the burning of a few houses and barns no serious loss was suffered.

While the destruction of Springfield was a serious blow to every settler in the town, Captain Pynchon was the heaviest loser in property, and as a result he was nearly driven to distraction. Indeed, every settler lost all he had, but the feeling of discouragement which settled in Capt. Pynchon's mind cast a cloud over the entire community. The general court advised the removal of the people to the eastern colonies of the province, but this was impossible, hence the counsel was not heeded. For a year or two the inhabitants struggled along against every adversity, and at the end of that time the storm of war passed away and peace and

order were restored. Soon a new town grew out of the ruins of the old place and a greatly improved condition of things was established.

In the course of a few years after King Philip's war new Indian troubles arose, and for the next hundred years Springfield hardly knew the blessings of peace. Following the period referred to in preceding paragraphs, there next was visited on our people the effects of King William's war, then Queen Anne's war, and after that the long continued series of French and English wars which excited the public mind and called for men and money—a continual drain on the resources of the town—until the final overthrow of the French power in America in 1763. In less than a dozen more years there followed the revolution, during which Springfield was the center of military operations, and for eight years more the people knew nothing of peace. However, in a way this war resulted in material good to the town, in the establishment of the federal arsenal and the watershops, thus adding greatly to the local population and the constant employment of about a thousand workmen. Following close upon the revolution came Shays' insurrection, the brief but exciting struggle between the insurgents and the officers of the law and the courts, and culminating in Shays' ridiculous and fruitless attempt to capture the U. S. arsenal on the hill. All the preceding events are made subjects of special chapters in another part of this work, hence need but passing notice here.

Among the multitude of misfortunes which visited themselves upon the town about the time of King Philip's war mention is to be made of the death of two of Springfield's most respected and upright citizens. We refer to Deacon Samuel Chapin and Capt. Elizur Holyoke, both of whom died in 1675 and both of whom had labored long and earnestly for the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people of the community. Major John Pynchon, the last survivor of the little pioneer band that founded the colony in 1636, was also removed by the hand of death.

Major Pynchon had been the leading man of the town for many years. In youth he had come with his father and took part

in founding the plantation, and when the latter returned to England in 1652, the son succeeded to his business interests and also to his influence in the region. When the inhabitants formed the first militia company John Pynchon was chosen captain. Later on he was made major, a title by which he was afterward known. From the organization of the county until after King Philip's war, Major Pynchon was the most conspicuous figure in Springfield history.

In accordance with a proclamation issued by the crown, the general court, on April 27, 1678, ordered all subjects to take the

Park Congregational Church, Springfield

oath of allegiance before one of the magistrates of the colony. Major Pynchon was appointed to administer the oath to the inhabitants of Springfield, and agreeable to the act the following named persons attested their loyalty to the king during the month of December, 1678, and January, 1679. (An hundred years later such an order would have found little recognition in the colony): Pelatiah Glover, Robert Ashley, Samuel Marshfield, Benj. Parsons, jr., Lieut. Thomas Stebbins, John Lamb, Japhet Chapin, Thomas Day, John Stewart, Samuel Bliss, John Scott, Jonathan Ashley, James Dorchester, Joseph Leman, Thomas Colton, Nathaniel Sikes, John Bagg, John Barber, jr., William Brook, Samuel Bliss, Edward Stebbins, John Holyoke,

George Colton, Thomas Mirrick, Jonathan Burt, Miles Morgan, William Branch, Nathaniel Burt, Samuel Ely, James Warriner, Jonathan Taylor, John Harmon, Joseph Ashley, Thomas Cooper, Isaac Colton, Increase Sikes, James Sikes, Obadiah Miller, Charles Ferry, John Matthews, Thomas Stebbins, Benj. Stebbins, Daniel Denton, Anthony Dorchester, John Dumbleton, Rowland Thomas, Henry Chapin, John Clark, Rice Bedortha, Nathaniel Pritchard, John Hitchcock, John Bliss, John Petty, John Dorchester, Edward Foster, Ephraim Colton, Victory Sikes, John Barber, John Riley, Samuel Ferry, Abel Wright, Joseph Stebbins.

The above list probably contains the names of all the male inhabitants of full age in the town at that time, and by comparison with Elizur Holyoke's list on a preceding page the reader will gain an idea of the growth of the town during the intervening fifteen years. It should be stated, however, that in 1669 Westfield was set off from Springfield and took from the mother town a considerable number of inhabitants.

CHAPTER II.

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—(Continued)

The beginning of the eighteenth century found the town with about nine hundred inhabitants scattered over its vast area, with the only trading and marketing center of any consequence at Springfield. Except that Queene Anne's war began soon after 1700 and had the effect to keep the people in a state of alarm, the period was unimportant in local annals. West Springfield had recently (1696) been made a separate parish and soon afterward Longmeadow was similarly incorporated for purposes of church worship and government. Neither of these localities, however, severed its connection with the mother town until nearly three-quarters of a century later, and at the time of which

we write Springfield still retained substantially all its original territory except the part set off in 1669 to form Westfield. The creation of the new parishes was chiefly for the purpose of establishing churches and a part of the ecclesiastical rather than the civil history of the town.

After the death of Major Pynchon a new order of things began to replace the old system of government. In fact this changed condition began about the time town ownership and control of land titles was abolished. Yet many years passed before the people realized that the most thickly settled district of their town—what is now the city—must of necessity resolve itself into the form and character of a municipality. It was a county seat, and a trading center, provided with a church, a school, a saw and corn mill and other elements of an embryo city, but the town lots were over large, being from eight to fourteen rods front on the main thoroughfare, and even that "towne streete" was of extraordinary width.

Previous to this time the town virtually had been governed by the Pynchon influence, which while perfectly wholesome, honest and moral, it was not really progressive or calculated to increase the local population or to inspire a spirit of ambition on the part of its inhabitants. Even then many men had become convinced that there must be a more radical separation of affairs of the town and the church, and until this was accomplished there could be no real progress in the town. This was not what would be called a reform movement, for there was nothing in the moral status of the town that required reformation, but it was a step in the direction of systematic local government and one which must be taken before Springfield could attain a standing of prominence among the civil divisions of the state.

For a period of fully sixty years Springfield had been a county seat before a court house was built, while Northampton had erected a "home of justice" soon after Hampshire county was created. The first court house in Springfield was completed in 1723 and stood near the corner of Main and Sanford streets. The structure and the events in connection with its history are fully mentioned in a preceding chapter.

The construction of the court house was not the first success of the progressive element of the town over those who were content to live under the primitive order of things, but it was the greatest achievement of the period. It had been hoped that the towns of Westfield, Enfield, Suffield and Brookfield would lend assistance in the work and commissioners were sent to treat with them to that end as early as 1721. But the towns referred to failed to give more than verbal encouragement to the project, and when the court house was in fact built it was at the sole expense of this town. From that time the progressive element always prevailed in town affairs although the result was an occasional division of the territory and the creation of new towns. No bitter rivalries were created and it was simply a question whether Springfield should be a progressive or a non-progressive town.

Ten years later there arose a feeling of real bitterness which for a year or two threatened the peace of the community. For almost forty years previous to 1734 Daniel Brewer had ministered to the spiritual needs of the town as head of the First parish. This good man died in 1733 and in May of the next year Robert Breck was invited to preach in the parish meeting house with a view to settlement as pastoral head of the flock. But as soon as the news of the informal call had become known certain citizens and ministers in high standing in the church, particularly resident in Connecticut towns, circulated serious charges against the soundness of Mr. Breck's religious belief and teachings, openly alleging heresy and all manner of false doctrines calculated to deceive the true believer, promote discord and throw down the very foundations of the christian church, if unrestrained.

While it is not the purpose of this chapter to discuss the ecclesiastical history of the town, the relation of the event under consideration to the civil history of the locality was so close that at least a passing mention of it seems necessary at this time. The so-called Breck controversy was an exciting event in the town's history and resulted in the arrayal of the best people, pro and con, with some feeling on both sides. The ministerial association was summoned to the relief of the opposing faction, then the local

courts became involved in the matter, and finally the power of the general court was invoked, much in the same manner as Mr. Pynchon's case was treated nearly half a century before; but the result was substantially the same, and Mr. Breck's theological views came to be accepted in later years, and his pastorate was a splendid success for the people of the town. At the outset, however, Mr. Breck's supporters were chiefly persons in full church communion.

At length after a protracted controversy Mr. Breck "justified" himself by a published confession of faith, also by ably presenting his own defense before various civil and ecclesiastical tribunals, and therefore he was duly ordained in the pastoral relation. He preached and worked in the old First parish a full half century and was one of the most zealous and upright men of his time. It is believed that many of his former opponents became his warm friends. Among them were some of the leading men of the town at the time. Those whose names are recalled were William Pynchon, jr., Robert Harris, John Worthington, Ebenezer Warriner, Benj. Wait, Ebenezer Warner, Daniel Cadwell, Jedediah Bliss, Samuel Bliss, Henry Chapin, Simon Smith, Increase Sikes, jr., Abner Ely, Obadiah Cooley, Abel Bliss, Timothy Bliss, Pelatiah Bliss, John Chapin, Luke Bliss, Joseph Ashley, Thomas Horton, David Chapin and John Chapin, jr.

In the above list will be found the names of several persons not before mentioned in town history. As a matter of fact at the time of the trouble regarding Mr. Breck, Springfield had acquired a considerable population and was no longer a small town as far as number of inhabitants was concerned. The greater part of the fertile lands were even then under cultivation and the forests were rapidly disappearing before the woodman's axe. In 1737-8 the town assessment rolls showed a total of about 350 taxable inhabitants, equal to an aggregate population of about 1,400 persons of all ages. At that time the territory was divided into districts for the improvement and maintenance of roads and the convenient collection of annual rates. According to the records of 1738 the town comprised five of these districts, and in that part of the town which afterward was incorporated as the

city, constable John Munn was collector of the rates. His old list, which is preserved among the archives of the town, showed the district to contain 89 taxable inhabitants, or an equivalent of about 400 persons in the year mentioned.

In Constable Munn's district these names appeared on the roll: Increase Sikes, jr., John Hancock, Widow Hannah Sikes, Simon Smith, Ebenezer Lumbard, Jonathan Stevenson, Israel Warner, Benj. Warriner, Benjamin Knowlton, Joseph Burt, Samuel Weaver, estate of Ebenezer Warriner, Daniel Caldwell, Obadiah Cooley, Moses Bartlett, Samuel Warner, jr., Benjamin Sikes, Lieut. John Burt, John Burt, jr., Increase Sikes, estate of Samuel Sikes, Jonathan Bartlett, Thomas Stiles, Ebenezer Stebbins, jr., John Munn, Robert Ashley, Dea. Henry Burt, Moses Burt, James Burt, Robert Harris, Abel Bliss, Timothy Bliss, Edward Bliss, Jedediah Bliss, Abner Ely, John Harmon, Lt. John Ferre, John Ferre, jr., Ebenezer Warner, Jonathan Day, Widow Elizur Sikes, Joseph Sikes, Samuel Bliss, John Morgan, David Warriner, Gershom Ferre, Samuel Bartlett, Ephraim Bartlett, James Warriner, William Bliss, jr., Pelatiah Hitchcock, widow Hannah White, widow Ruth Ingersoll, Joseph Warriner, Samuel Marshfield, Capt. John Mirrick, Thomas Merrick, Thomas Mirrick, jr., David Mirrick, Moses Mirrick, Lt. Pelatiah Bliss, Luke Bliss, Jonathan Church, William Pynchon, Thomas Horton, Benj. Horton, Jeremiah Horton, Benj. Horton, jr., Timothy Horton, John Horton, Daniel Warner, Benj. Brooks, Samuel Brooks, Noah Brooks, widow Hannah Beaman, Jonathan Bartlett, Samuel Huggins, John Miller, 3d, Noah Alvord, Nathaniel Brewer, Katharine Brewer, George Mather, Jonathan Bliss, Benj. Wait, Cornelius Jones, Jonathan Warriner, Edmund Newman, Benj. Dorchester, William Bliss, Elijah Stetson.

The affairs of the town were beginning to assume practical form about this time, and the various offshoot parishes or precincts of the mother district were becoming in a measure self-supporting and prosperous. The town now had enjoyed a considerable period of comparative peace, but in 1744 England and France were again at war both in Europe and in this country. This was the beginning of the end of the French dominion in

America and that power struggled furiously to maintain its supremacy on the continent. As usual the New England colonies were seriously involved in the strife of the next twenty years, and again the Connecticut valley was the scene of constant disturbance through fear of another Indian attack similar to that which resulted in the destruction of Springfield in 1675. But now the northern frontier was well guarded, and while the savages were constantly on the border this town was fortunately free from attack.

In the expedition against Louisburg in 1745 there was a union of the forces of New York and New England, and the Hampshire county regiment was called upon for service in Canada. The command contained a company of Springfield men, of whom twenty-three laid down their lives in the historic siege of Louisburg. They were Lieut. John Munn, Jonathan Warriner, Abner Hancock, Israel Warner, John Ashley, Pelatiah Jones, Gideon Warriner, John Crowfoot, Benjamin Knowlton, jr., Samuel Chapin, jr., Ebenezer Warner, Asahel Chapin, Ebenezer Thomas, Reuben Hitchcock, Joseph Mears, Reuben Dorchester and George Mygate.

In the later years of the war the town was the scene of many interesting events, yet the actual strife was confined to other localities. The war was finally ended by the treaty of 1763, and thereafter the inhabitants of the growing town were granted a period of twelve years in which to prepare for the final struggle for American independence.

The revolutionary period was one of great interest in the town, and one also in which Springfield attained a special prominence in Massachusetts history. The general events of the war are fully narrated in another chapter, hence it is sufficient to refer to things of a local character, particularly to the names of persons who bore arms in the cause of national freedom. In 1774 West Springfield was set off as a separate jurisdiction, and the mother town was now limited to territory east of the Connecticut river.

In the years immediately preceding the revolution John Worthington was one of the most influential personages in the

town. He was representative in the general court from 1761 to 1774 and for several years had been the leading man of the board of selectmen. As a barrister he was held in high esteem and his opinion was regarded as law with the majority of the people. Before the war was begun he had shown strong tory leanings and his voice and influence favored British supremacy.

In the Connecticut valley Col. Worthington had many followers, and while they generally were men of substance and influence their opinions did not find favor with the great majority of the people. The Worthington following comprised men who had been active in political affairs, while on the other side were the real developers of the region, the actual and useful factors in town history; men of brain and brawn, but lacking in political ambition and possibly wanting in the power of loud public declamation. But they were men of strong character and determination and when the time for action was at hand they moved promptly and effectually and at once subdued any strong sentiment of toryism that may have threatened the community.

When we consider the influences under which the people of Springfield had been reared and governed previous to the revolution it is surprising that British sympathizers were not even more numerous during that period, but when the leaders themselves discovered the trend of public sentiment, and the unpopularity of the cause they had advocated, they discreetly withdrew from active participation in public affairs and held themselves closely within their own narrow circle. Then Col. Worthington and associates retired from the public gaze and new men were called into prominence. In 1773 Col. Worthington and John Bliss were the representatives in the general court. In 1775 the town was represented by John Hale, William Pynchon, Capt. George Pynchon and Dr. Charles Pynchon. In 1774 the selectmen were John Worthington, Moses Bliss, John Hale, Phineas Chapin and Daniel Harris. In 1775 the board comprised Daniel Harris, Phineas Chapin, Aaron Colton, James Sikes and William Pynchon, jr.

The year preceding the outbreak of the war was one of deep interest and great excitement growing out of the unfriendly rela-

tions of the colonies with the mother country, and on July 12 the town in public meeting declared its loyalty to the cause for which the Americans were contending. The resolves then adopted were prepared by a committee comprising Dea. Nathaniel Brewer, Capt. George Pynchon, Dr. Charles Pynchon, Capt. Simon Colton, Moses Field, Jonathan Hale, jr., Ensign Phineas Chapin, James Sikes and Dea. Daniel Harris. The resolutions reviewed at length the political situation of the country and the numerous

St. Paul's Universalist Church, Springfield

acts of oppression on the part of the crown, and promised loyalty to the colonies.

In September following the town approved of the measure calling for a "county congress" and chose as its delegates Dr. Charles Pynchon, Luke Bliss and Jonathan Hale, jr. The committee of correspondence, chosen at the same time, comprised Dr. Charles Pynchon, William Pynchon, jr., James Sikes, Dea. Nathaniel Brewer and John Hale. Dr. Pynchon and John Bliss

(the latter of Wilbraham) were chosen to represent the town in the general court held at Salem, October 5, and Capt. George Pynchon and Jonathan Hale, jr., were selected as delegates to the provincial congress held October 2. In addition to the selection of the most loyal men to represent the town during this trying period, the inhabitants made preparation for war in the organization of militia companies and in collecting arms and ammunition. In March, 1775, the selectmen drew orders on the treasury of the town for 35 pounds to pay Horace White for 25 gun barrels; to pay Martin Ely 25 pounds for 25 gun locks, and to pay Reuben Bliss 7 pounds, 19 shillings and 6 pence for "stocking" 25 guns. Provision also was made for the relief of a number of persons who had been made dependent on the public bounty in being compelled to leave Boston, which city then was occupied by the British troops.

At the annual town meeting in the spring of 1775 the most loyal men were elected to office and every place was filled with great care. The officers then chosen were as follows:

Moderator—James Sikes.

Clerk and Treasurer—Edward Pynchon, "Esquire."

Selectmen—Dea. Daniel Harris, Ensign Phineas Chapin, James Sikes, William Pynchon, jr., and Dea. Aaron Colton.

Wardens—Daniel Lumbard (Lombard), Nathaniel Burt and Eleazer Chapin.

Assessors—Jonathan Burt, jr., Dea. Edward Chapin and William Pynchon, jr.

Constables—Stephen Hitchcock, Moses Harris, William Stebbins, jr., Henry Colton and Stephen Wright.

Tythingmen—Timothy Bliss, Ebenezer Bliss, George Colton, 2d, and Jonathan Bement.

Surveyors of Highways—Andrew Colton, Josiah Hitchcock, Aaron Cooley, Hezekiah Hale, Silas Hale, Benoni Chapin, George Chapin and Eliakim Cooley.

Fence Viewers—Jacob Cooley, Joseph Stebbins, jr., Festus Colton, Samuel Keep, Ensign Phineas Chapin and William Chapin, jr.

Surveyors of Shingles and Clapboards—Lieut. Abner Smith, Phineas Chapin, jr., and David White.

Hog Rieves—Matthew Keep, Edward Crandall, John Clark and Abijah Edson.

Deer Rieves—Nathaniel Alexander and Elijah Burt.

Sealers of Leather—Samuel Gridley and Jonathan Stebbins.

Committee to Adjust Accounts of ye Treasurer—Reuben Bliss, Luke Bliss and Jonathan Dwight.

Bull Committee—John Warner, Thomas Stebbins, Josiah Cooley, Samuel Keep, Silas Hale, Dea. Edward Chapin, Azariah VanHorn and John Horton.

In 1775 the town contained a total of 362 "polls." According to the "rate lists" prepared by the assessors in December of that year the taxable inhabitants were as follows:

James Page Adlington, Lieut. Nathaniel Alexander, Lieut. Job Alvord, David Ashley, John Ashley, Joseph Ashley, jr., Asa Bartlett, George Bates, Thomas Bates, Moses Baxter, Jonathan Bement, Jonathan Bissell, Aaron Bliss, Abner Bliss, Alexander Bliss, Calvin Bliss, Daniel Bliss, Ebenezer Bliss 2d, Ebenezer Bliss 3d, Ebenezer Bliss 4th, Eli Bliss, Widow Elizabeth Bliss, Eunice Bliss, Widow Experience Bliss, Gad Bliss, Ensign Jedediah Bliss, Lieut. Luke Bliss, Moses Bliss, "Esq.," Moses Bliss, jr., Nathan Bliss, Nathan Bliss, jr., Nathaniel Bliss, Pelatiah Bliss, Widow Rebecca Bliss, Reuben Bliss, Samuel Bliss, Widow Silence Bliss, Timothy Bliss, Mary Bond, David Bonner, John Budges, Charles Brewer, George Brewer, Dea. Nathaniel Brewer, Solomon Brewer, Widow Lydia Brooks, Noah Brooks, David Burt, David Burt 2d, David Burt 3d, Ebenezer Burt, Elam Burt, Enoch Burt, Frederick Burt, Capt. Gideon Burt, John Burt, John Burt, jr., Jonathan Burt, Moses Burt, Nathaniel Burt, Oliver Burt, Rex Burt, Samuel Burt, Benoni Chapin, Dea. Edward Chapin, Eleazer Chapin, Eleazer Chapin, jr., Enoch Chapin, Ephraim Chapin, George Chapin, George Chapin, jr., Gideon Chapin, Widow Hannah Chapin, Isaac Chapin, Israel Chapin, Jacob Chapin, Jacob Chapin, jr., Lieut. Japhet Chapin, Joseph Chapin, Joseph Chapin, jr., Josiah Chapin, Nathan Chapin, Ensign Phineas Chapin, Phineas Chapin, jr., Widow Sarah Chapin, Seth Chapin, Simeon Chapin, Solomon Chapin, William Chapin, William Chapin, jr., Moses Church, John Clarke, Dr.

Joseph Clarke, Joseph Clough, Dea. Moses Cobb, Seth Storer Coburn, Ambrose Collins, Ariel Collins, Peter Colson, Dea Aaron Colton, Abner Colton, Andrew Colton, Asa Colton, Charles Colton, Charles Colton, jr., Ebenezer Colton, Elihu Colton, Festus Colton, Frederick Colton, George Colton, George Colton 2d, George Colton 3d, Gideon Colton, Henry Colton, Colonel Isaac Colton, Israel Colton, John Colton, John Colton, jr., Samuel Colton, Capt. Simon Colton, Thomas Colton, William Colton, Aaron Cooley, Asahel Cooley, Caleb Cooley, Caleb Cooley, jr., Eli Cooley, Eliachim Cooley, George Cooley, Israel Cooley, Jabez Cooley, Jacob Cooley, Jonah Cooley, Josiah Cooley, Josiah Cooley, jr., Moses Cooley, Stephen Cooley, Samuel Comes, Widow Hannah Day, Joel Day, Benoni Dewey, Widow Elizabeth Dwight, Jonathan Dwight, Abijah Edson, Samuel Edson, Dea. Nathaniel Ely, Nathaniel Ely, jr., Aaron Ferre, Elisha Ferre, John Ferre, Joseph Ferre, Solomon Ferre, Moses Field, Oliver Field, Thomas Fisher, John Fox, John Frink, Abner Frost, Jonathan Frost, Joseph Frost, Samuel Gridley, Hezekiah Hale, John Hale, Jonathan Hale, Jonathan Hale, jr., Noah Hale, Sylvanus Hale, Thos. Hale, Thos. Hale, jr., Abel Hancock, Abel Hancock, jr., Jotham Hancock, Wm. Hancock, jr., Dea. Daniel Harris, Moses Harris, Lt. Robert Harris, John Hill, Capt. Ebenezer Hitchcock, Ebenezer Hitchcock, jr., George Hitchcock, John Hitchcock, Josiah Hitchcock, Levi Hitchcock, Levi Hitchcock, jr., Luther Hitchcock, Phineas Hitchcock, Samuel Hitchcock, Stephen Hitchcock, Gad Horton, Jeremiah Horton, John Horton, Margaret Horton, Widow Mary Horton, Mary Horton "Jr.," Stephen Horton, Benj. Howard, Benj. Howard, jr., Thomas Hunt, Jonathan Ingersoll, Widow Margaret Jones, Matthew Keep, Samuel Keep, Stephen Keep, Joseph Kellogg, jr., John King, Oliver King, Parmenas King, Daniel Lamb, Gad Lamb, John Lloyd, Daniel Lombard, Joseph Lombard, Solomon Loomis, Thomas Mirrick, (lived in Wilbraham but owned land in Springfield), Aaron Morgan, Ebenezer Morgan, jr., John Morgan, Samuel Morgan, Stephen Morgan, David Moore, Simon Moore, Samuel Munn, Widow Sarah Munn, Daniel Murphy, Edmond Murphy, James Nash, Patrick Nugent, Isaac Osborn, James Parker, Aaron Par-

sons, Aaron Parsons, jr., Abner Parsons, Daniel Parsons, Gideon Parsons, Zenas Parsons, John Pascue, John Paulk, Noah Paulk, Andrew Peterson, Dr. Charles Pynchon, Edward Pynchon, "Esq.," Capt. George Pynchon, John Pynchon, Walter Pynchon, William Pynchon, jr., John Root, Ebenezer Rumrill, Nehemiah Rumrill, Allis Russell, Jeduthan Sanderson, Medad Sanderson, Robert Sanderson, Lieut. Abner Smith, Joel Smith, Philip Smith, Lieut. Smith, Jabez Snow, Ebenezer Stebbins, Edward Stebbins, Ezra Stebbins, Dea. Gad Stebbins, Jonathan Stebbins, Joseph Stebbins, Joseph Stebbins, jr., Lemuel Stebbins, Lewis Stebbins, Medad Stebbins, Widow Rachael Stebbins, Thomas Stebbins, John Stedman, Phineas Stedman, Phineas Stedman, jr., Lieut. Aaron Steele, Justus Steele, Squire Steele, Robert Stevens, Abiathar Stevenson, Benajah Stevenson, Joseph Taylor, Abraham VanHorn, Azariah VanHorn, John VanHorn, Moses Wait, Benjamin Wardwell, Ebenezer Warner, Gerald Warner, John Warner, Zachariah Warner, Aaron Warriner, Benjamin Warriner, Ebenezer Warriner, Ebenezer Warriner, jr., David White, Preserved White, Preserved White, jr., William White, William White, jr., Ensign Samuel Williams, Thomas Williston, Benjamin Wolcott, Azariah Woolworth, Richard Woolworth, Richard Woolworth, jr., John Worthington, "Esq.," Daniel Wright, David Wright, Ezekiel Wright, Ezekiel Wright, jr., George Wright, George Wright, jr., Moses Wright, Stephen Wright, Stephen Wright, jr.

On the morning of April 19, 1775, a strong detachment of British troops marched out of Boston and attacked a small party of Americans who had gathered at Lexington to protect the military stores deposited at that place. Within twenty-four hours from that time a mounted courier rode rapidly into Springfield and sounded the call to arms. The minute-men of the town, and of all other towns in the region, at once prepared for action, and in the space of a few hours all the companies were ready to march to Boston.

In the office of the city clerk of Springfield there is preserved the formal written announcement[1] of the attack on Lex-

[1]The full text of this document will be found in the general chapter on the revolutionary war.

ington, which was left with the selectmen by Isaac Bissell, the courier. On the reverse side of the paper there appears the names of many men of Springfield, all of whom are presumed to have answered the call and enrolled themselves for service, although there is nothing to show by whom they were commanded or that they in fact marched to Boston on that eventful occasion. However, as an interesting memento of the period the names on the paper are reproduced here, and are as follows:

Jacob Cooley, jr., Ebenezer Colton, Moses Harris, Calvin Bliss, Ebenezer Rumrill, James Taylor, Spencer Myrick, Thomas Hale, Jonah Cooley, Abner Cooley, James Nash, Gad Horton, Joseph King, Zadock Bliss, Henry Stiles, Silvanus Hale, Jacob Chapin, George Wright, Peter Colton, Abiathar Stevenson, Joseph Kellogg, jr., Squire Steele, Gad Bliss, Abner Russell, Matthias Lancton, John Warner, jr., Abel Hancock, jr., Aaron Ferre, Samuel Bliss, Luther Hitchcock, Abijah Edson, Justin Smith, Jonathan Ingersoll, Asahel Cooley, Medad Stebbins, Samuel Keep, Olin Field, John Burt, jr., Caleb Cooley, jr., Oliver Burt, Israel Chapin, John Stedman, Phineas Stedman, jr., Samuel Edson, Benjamin Parsons, Jacob Kellogg, Alexander Bliss, Patrick Nugent, Phineas Chapin, Solomon Chapin, Joseph Chapin, jr., Philip Smith, Eleazer Chapin, jr., Asher Granger, Walter Pynchon, William White, Jabez Snow, Arthur Hitchcock, Solomon Brewer, Robert Stevens, Samuel Gridley.

The regular Springfield company of minute-men under Major Andrew Colton who marched to Boston on April 20, and whose service at the time was for ten days, was comprised as follows:

Gideon Burt, 1st Lieut; Walter Pynchon, 2d Lieut; Aaron Steele and William White, sergeants; Luther Hitchcock and Ambrose Collins, corporals; William Colton and David Chapin, fifers; Lewis Chapin, drummer; Jeduthan Sanderson, centinel; and privates Israel Chapin, Samuel Gridley, Alexander Bliss, Aaron Parsons, jr., Aaron Ferre, Gad Horton, Samuel Bliss, James Nash, Abel Hancock, George Wright, jr., Matthew Lancton, Peter Colton, John Stedman, Abner Russell, Asahel Cooley, John Warner, jr., Justin Smith, Samuel Edson, Patrick Nugent,

Benjamin Parsons, Jonathan Ingersoll, Calvin Bliss, Henry Stiles, Luther Colton, Abner Cooley, Lemuel Parsons, Noah Bliss, Joseph King, Caleb Cooley, Zadock Bliss, James Taylor, Ebenezer Rumrill, Sylvanus Hale, Spencer Merrick, Joseph Parsons and Moses Bliss.

In Captain David Burt's company of minute-men from Longmeadow, who also rallied and marched to Boston on the occasion mentioned, there were Ebenezer Colton, Nathaniel Ely, Samuel Keep, Abner Colton, John Colton, Josiah Cooley, Aaron Bliss, jr., David White, Samuel Smith, Nehemiah Rumrill, Oliver King, Richard Woolworth, Elijah Burt, John Ashley, Thomas Stebbins, James Parker, Gad Lamb, Samuel Morgan, Samuel Burt and Ebenezer Stebbins.

There were several other minute-men who started out on that tedious march of April 20, although we have no record to show that they were a part of a regularly organized company. In this connection there may be recalled the names of Matthew Keep, Thomas Bates, Solomon Brewer, Jonathan Colton, Benj. Colton, jr., John Burt, jr., Abijah Edson, Jacob Kellogg, Joshua Kellogg, Moses Harris, Robert Stevens, Oliver Burt, Jacob Chapin, Eleazer Chapin, Oliver Field, Medad Stebbins, Jonah Cooley, Simon Moore, Seth Coburn and Thomas Hale, jr.

After the departure of the minute men the town took immediate measures for raising more troops for the army of the province, as there yet remained many serviceable men who were willing to share the vicissitudes of a soldier's life. Those who took up arms at the first call were not enlisted for a specified time, but were the enrolled militia, ready for any emergency, hence were "minute-men" indeed. On April 24, three days after the minute-men had left, Capt. Gideon Burt's company was enlisted for three months' service. The personnel of the command was as follows:

Gideon Burt, captain; Walter Pynchon, 1st lieutenant; Aaron Steel, 2d lieutenant; Samuel Gridley, William White, Aaron Parsons and Ambrose Collins, sergeants; Luther Hitchcock, corporal; and privates Samuel Bliss, Simon Moore, Samuel Edson, Lewis Chapin, Spencer Merrick, William Colton,

Nathan Bliss, Caleb Cooley, Justin Smith, Lemuel Parsons, Aaron Ferre, Beriah Jennings, Benj. Parsons, Jeduthan Sanderson, Noah Bliss, Matthias Lancton, Abel Hancock, Jabez Cooley, James Taylor, Stephen Russell, Theodore Smith, Ebenezer Rumrill, Frederick Colton, Justin Moore, Abner Cooley, Benj. Howard, Abner Russell, Elihu Colton, Jacob Ward, Silvanus Hale, Henry Stiles, Moses Bedunah, Luther Colton, Calvin Bliss, Joseph King, Benoni Bannister, Joseph Chapin, Robert Stevens, John Hendrick, David Chapin, Zadock Bliss, George Wright, Patrick Nugent, James Nash, Arthur Hitchcock, Luther Colton, Jonas Christian, Jonathan Ingersoll, Moses Bliss, Ebenezer Martin, John Stedman and Peter Colson.

This, however, does not complete the list of soldiers sent out by the town during the period of the war, as nearly all the able-bodied young men, and many others, who were exempt from military duty, entered the service in one capacity or another. The loyalty of the town was undoubted and many households denied themselves the necessaries of life in order to provide comforts for those in the field. The records disclose that in October, 1775, besides the excessive drain on the resources of the town in earlier months, Capt. Isaac Colton was in camp at Roxbury with a force of men, among whom were Lieut. Nathaniel Alexander, corporals Moses Wait and David Murphy, drummer Benj. Colton, and privates Stephen Hunt, James Ives, Eli Barrister, Abel Hancock, William Hancock, Elijah Hancock, Thomas Ferre, Joseph Parsons, James Parker, Ebenezer Eddy and Moses Wait. From the same source also it is learned that many young men of Springfield were regularly enlisted in the provincial militia, while a few found their way into the American army, serving with the continental troops throughout the war.

One of the notable events of the year 1775 was the arrival in Springfield of General Washington, en route to Boston to take command of the army encamped about the city. He stopped for a time at the old Parsons tavern, which then was located in Elm street, and his presence in the town was the occasion of much enthusiasm on the part of the loyal citizens. On his departure a troop of horsemen escorted the party as far as Brookfield.

The old "Parsons Tavern"

This once famous hostelry in early Springfield history stood on what is now "Court Square." Gen. Washington stopped there while on a tour of inspection and in still later years the same old house furnished entertainment to President Monroe

The great hardships which were visited upon our people during the war had their beginning in 1777, when the demand for men taxed the capacity of the town to its utmost. In April of that year the Hampshire county militia were ordered to take part in the expedition against Ticonderoga. The men called for at this time could not well be spared, as the season's work was at hand, but notwithstanding this the town's quota was furnished under the assurance that the families of those who were away would be provided for by the older men, those who had means, and at the public expense. In answer to this call when the men marched away to join Col. David Seward's regiment, Springfield's contribution included Capt. Gideon Burt, Lieut. Ebenezer Colton, Jonathan Burt, Samuel Gridley, Ebenezer Morgan, Ambrose Collins, Ephraim Brown, Thomas Colton, Festus Colton, George Cooley, Ebenezer Rumrill, Simeon Colton, Samuel Keep, Henry Colton, Ezra Stebbins, William Hunt, Jeduthan Sanderson, Mr. Hitchcock (probably Ebenezer) Luther Van Horn, Daniel Bliss, Japhet Chapin and Ephraim Chapin.

In the same year when the subject of confederation of all the colonies was under consideration a committee was chosen to represent the town at a conference in the province. Deacon Nathaniel Brewer was at the head of the committee and Col. Worthington and Moses Bliss were among his designated associates. Both, however, declined to serve. Col. Worthington was a pronounced British sympathizer while Mr. Bliss and been quite lukewarm in his support of the cause of the colonies. As lawyers and men of influence both had for years been prominent in town affairs and in dealing with the weighty matters under discussion the town asked their advice, but it was refused.

In 1778 another demand for men was made on the already overburdened town. The available militia now were on almost constant duty and to furnish additional troops required the greatest effort on the part of the selectmen and the local committee of safety. A draft became necessary and the company thus organized was sent to Fishkill, in the province of New York.

The men were David Bonner, Austin Brooks, William Hitchcock, Justin Smith, James Mills, Israel Bond, Ezekiel Chapin,

Martin Smith, Leba Bellman, Abel Coburn, Abner Russell, Jabez Crosby, and Daniel Hancock.

The following men served in Capt. Rowle's company of Col. Jacob's regiment:

Capt. Nathan Rowle, Lieut. Enoch Leonard, Ebenezer Pomeroy, Simeon Colton, Ebenezer Bliss, Oliver Hitchcock, Abiather Stevenson, Jonathan Stevenson, Wm. Pepper, Gad Warriner, George Blake, Timothy Hopkins, James Howard and Russell Allen.

In Capt. Phineas Stebbins' company were these men from Springfield:

Nathan Chapin, sergeant, John Ferre, Reuben Ferre, Moses Stebbins, Moses Barber and William White.

The six-months' men who enlisted from the town in 1780 were Elias and William Hitchcock, Noah Frost, Amaziah Sanderson, Aaron Parsons, Alex. Ely, Gad Bliss, Moses Bliss, jr., John Morgan, David Bannon, George Smith, Thaddeus Ferre, Zachariah Hancock, Oliver Field, Jonathan Stevenson, Oliver Hancock, Solomon Loomis, Gideon Cooley, Joshua Brooks, David Hubbard, William Hancock, Joseph McGreney and Isaiah Chandler.

In Capt. Browning's company were several Springfield men who entered the service for three months in 1780: Lieut. John Colton, Corp. Benoni Chapin, Isaac Stebbins, Abram Brooks, Consider Bement, Marsh Bissell, Moses Parsons, Luther Smith, Jonathan Felt, Moses Hancock, Justin Bliss, Beriah Howard, Isaac Bliss, Zenas Bliss and Samuel Sikes.

The Springfield men known to have enlisted for three years service in Massachusetts regiments of the continental army are as follows: David Day, John Stevenson, Samuel Edson, John Pease, James Warner, Joseph Chapin and Zachariah Warner, in the 3d Mass.; Corp. Gideon Jones, Simon Johnson and Daniel Stevenson, in the 4th Mass.; James Mills, in the 5th Mass.; Joseph Maxfield and Loyal Sanderson, in the 6th Mass.; and Theodore Smith, Ashbel Mighel, Henry Stiles and Samuel Stebbins, in the 7th Mass. regiment.

Among the other men of Springfield who entered the service for three years, and whose enlistment dated from 1781, there may

be mentioned the names of Jonathan Cooley, Alpheus Hancock, Hanon Colton, Caleb Williston, Joshua Brooks, Alpheus Colton, Jacob Hills, James Reed, Joseph Dunham, Daniel Murphy, Titus Welch, James Eaton, John Fox, Micah Grant, George Smith.

Springfield first became a depository for military supplies in 1776, and in a small way several cannon were made about that time. In the next year Col. Cheever was directed to transfer a considerable quantity of army stores to the place and also to establish an arsenal and supply depot in the town. In 1779 land was secured for the erection of the watershops, and thereafter the locality enjoyed a special prominence in the manufacture of arms. As is stated in an earlier chapter, the establishment of the national armory was the work of later years, but for more than a century the town and city have derived much advantage from the vast manufacturing plant on State street and which the people of West Springfield once rejected through fear of the demoralizing influences of a body of soldiers in the locality. In 1780 Springfield was designated as the rendezvous of forty-three divisions of three-months men, who were drilled and equipped for service at the old training ground on the hill, east of the business center of the town, now a desirable residence portion of the city. At the time mentioned Springfield was the central point of military operations in Western Massachusetts, and the mobilization of the militia was indirectly the result of the establishment of the arsenal and military station.

After the close of the war the people of the town began the difficult and important work of reconstruction. The war itself had cost the town many thousands of pounds in money. The poorer classes were reduced almost to absolute penury and men of property were themselves heavily in debt. Paper money had at best very little purchasing power and those who were heavily involved for the time were compelled to leave past obligations unpaid in order to maintain themselves until the storm of financial disaster had passed. But in spite of the unfortunate conditions which prevailed in the town, Springfield continued to grow. Even during the later years of the war, in 1782, a newspaper (Massachusetts Gazette and General Advertiser) was es-

tablished and in the same year an enterprising resident essayed a book publication.

In 1783 Longmeadow was set off from Springfield, taking a considerable portion of the territory of the mother town. In the same year a stage line was put in operation between this town and Hartford. But notwithstanding the remarkable recuperative powers shown by the people during the two or three years next following the revolution, the misfortunes of the war were not entirely swept away by the prosperity of the period following, but frequently made themselves manifest through mutterings of discontent on the part of the debtor class. Little attention was given to these grumblings at first, but in the course of a few more years the speck of disapproval in the political sky became a cloud and rapidly developed into a storm of insurrection that threatened the systems of state and local government. This was the period known in history as Shays' rebellion, the events of which are narrated in another chapter of this work. The insurrectionists would have stopped the operation of the courts, abolished the senate, ousted the executive, and, if successful in their unnatural scheme of government, would have deluged the state with worthless money, all for their temporary gratification regardless of the inevitable day of reckoning which must come, but of which they knew not. It was an exciting period in Springfield when Daniel Shays' hosts overturned the courts and openly insulted the unorganized militia, but when their little successes prompted an attack upon the federal arsenal on the hill, one or two discharges of small cannon by Gen. Shepard's soldiers dispersed the unruly horde and ended the embryo internecine war. This period was only another event in the evolution of time in the town, the like of which was enacted in several other states. It had its incentive, its lesson and its moral, and when it was passed the town was better and more vigorous than ever before. However, it was the last war within the borders of the county which brought hardships upon its people. For almost a century and a half they had struggled against either dusky or foreign foes and a struggle among themselves was a fitting close to the long period of wars to which they were subjected.

In 1794 Springfield, which for more than a century and a half had been the shire town of Hampshire county, lost that important character through the influence that sought to place the seat of government nearer the geographical center of the jurisdiction. The removal of the county seat was a serious blow to local interests for it took away the courts and their important judicial functionaries, officers, lawyers and attendants and transferred them to Northampton. At this time the town contained about 1,700 inhabitants and its territory included substantially the present town of Springfield and also that which now forms Chicopee, the latter then being a scattered and sparsely settled farming district with large areas of unimproved lands.

But notwithstanding the loss of the county buildings and the courts and the advantages to be derived therefrom, the town continued to grow, and the closing year of the eighteenth century found Springfield to contain 2,312 inhabitants with business interests equal to those of any town in the Connecticut valley.

CHAPTER III.

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—(Continued)

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the town of Springfield was found to contain a population of about 2,500 inhabitants, with a principal business and trading center on the east bank of the Connecticut, on the very site where William Pynchon and his associates planted a colony in 1636. At the time mentioned the principal business interests of the "Centre" comprised about half a dozen general stores and as many more small shops, two or three public houses, two printing establishments and one church, the latter alone of all the old institutions of the town having survived the ravages of passing years, and having continued to increase in usefulness and strength. In the meantime, between 1790 and 1800, the Methodists had gained

a foothold in the town, and while a society of that denomination was not formally organized, frequent meetings were held by missionary laborers sent into the field. There also was the "English" school at the Centre, the principal institution of its kind in the town, with various others of less note scattered throughout the territory to suit the convenience of the inhabitants. The town was divided into nine school districts in 1795. The armory on the hill and the watershops on Mill river constituted the chief industry, furnishing employment for about one

The Old Lombard House, Main street, Springfield

This house stood where now is Besse Place

hundred workmen. On Mill river at the same time were the usual saw, flour and grist mills, with the tannery, the fulling mill and the cloth mill. The products of these mills were consumed largely in the town, and the surplus was shipped down the Connecticut to towns less favored with manufacturing enterprises.

At this time, as near as can now be learned, the principal merchants of the town were Daniel Lombard, whose general store was kept at the corner of Meeting-house lane (now Elm street);

William Sheldon, who carried on an extensive general trade in a building located south of the court house; Eleazer Williams and Charles Sheldon, whose stock included dry and dress goods, groceries, hardware, drugs, etc. John Padley was the local tailor and "habit-maker," Deacon Jonathan Church the hatter, and John Lloyd the leather dresser, saddler and harness maker. James Byers & Co. sold iron and hardware, hollow ware and potash kettles, while Marcus Marble carried on a general drug store. The postmaster was James Byers, who kept the office in his store on the site where now stands the Springfield institution for savings.

The principal center of trade at that time, and indeed throughout the early history of the town, was in the vicinity of the old court house. The corner where now stands the Chicopee bank was for many years the business center, while the closest rival localities were the present Smith & Murray corner, where once stood the famous Hampden coffee house, and at the corners formed by the intersection of Main and State streets. Springfield was made a post-office station in 1775, and from that time until the completion of the new federal building at the corner of Main, Fort and Worthington streets, the office never was located south of State street nor north of Pynchon street. The old Pynchon fort, almost the last surviving relic of pioneer times, was comparatively outside the center of trade and stood almost alone in what then was regarded as the north part of the Centre, the latter name being used to designate the little hamlet that had been built up around the court house. It was not until the completion of the old toll bridge that business began to extend north along Main street, and not until after the opening of the Western railroad that Main street became a thoroughfare of importance.

The construction of the toll bridge was almost the first important public improvement which engaged the attention of the business men and capitalists (the latter were very few) of the time, and nearly every man of substance in the place was identified with the enterprise. Indeed, if the question were asked as to whom were the principal men of the town during the early

years of the last century a proper answer would be "the projectors and incorporators of the company that built the toll bridge and opened it for traffic in 1805." The company included such men as George Bliss, William Sheldon, Jonathan Dwight, Thomas Dwight, James Scutt Dwight, William Smith, William Pynchon, Jeremiah Stebbins, Jonathan Smith, Seth and Samuel Lathrop, Solomon Stebbins, Pelatiah Bliss, Jacob and Alexander Bliss, Zebina Stebbins, Justin Lombard, Ebenezer Williams, Joseph Williams, John Hooker, Justin Ely, jun., Reuben Sikes and George Blake.

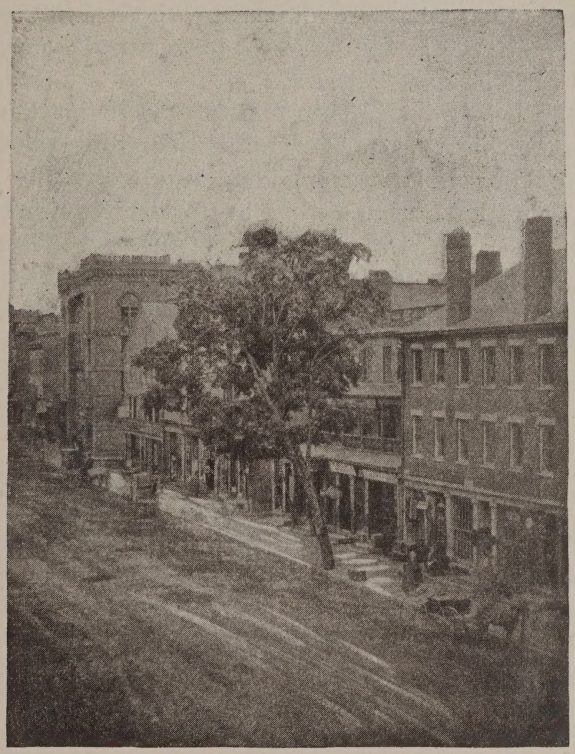
These proprietors not only built one of the first bridges that spanned the Connecticut, but in accomplishing that great work they made Springfield easily accessible to the people of the entire western region of the county and thus attracted new residents to the progressive town on the east bank of the river. More than that, after the construction of the bridge Springfield soon attained a standing of prominence among the most enterprising towns of the state. As a half-way station between Boston and Albany on the stage line it was the custom of drivers to "put up for the night" in the town, and in later years it was the chief seat of operations of the stage and transportation companies, whose lines extended not only east and west but also up and down the valley of the river. About the same time, too, Springfield began to attract attention on account of the product of its fisheries, in connection with which a considerable business was carried on; and while these things were constantly drawing new residents into the town the turnpike road companies were opening new farming territory and attracting settlement. Taken altogether the first fifteen years of the nineteenth century constituted a period of advancement and prosperity previously unsurpassed in the history of the town, and during that time the factors in events laid the foundations of the subsequent city—the city which was formally established in 1852.

In 1812 Springfield again became a shire town, the seat of justice of a new county—a county which has endured to the present day and which ranks with the most important civil divisions of New England. The formal act incorporating the county was

passed by the legislature February 12, 1812, and became operative on the first day of August following. At this time the people of the state were thoroughly wrought up over the impending war with Great Britain, and politics then had become a controlling factor in public affairs, all officers being chosen with especial reference to party affiliation. When the act went into effect the contending factions at once became involved in a political controversy over the offices to be filled and soon found themselves in a maze of legal difficulties, with George Ashmun and George Bliss, the leading legal lights of the time, battling for supremacy. But this little domestic squabble soon was settled and events resumed natural channels. The old court house at the corner of Main and Sandford streets was again put to use, having in previous years been occupied as a town hall and for various other public purposes.

It soon became evident, however, that the old court house, which was erected in 1722-23, was unsuited to the requirements of the new county and that a larger and more modern house of justice was a necessity. The subject was first discussed about 1815, and while it was agreed that a new building should be erected there appears to have been a division of sentiment regarding the proper location. The question seems to have been one of discussion only until about 1820, when the matter was brought to the attention of the Supreme judicial court through a writ of information filed against the court of sessions, charging neglect of duty in not providing a place for holding courts. The sites most favored were located on State street and on Meeting-house square. At that time State street had become a thoroughfare of considerable importance and several business interests had centered about the armory, while Meeting-house square was the old established business center. Fortunately no bitterness entered into the controversy, yet the advocates of each of the sites labored zealously to secure the coveted buildings for their locality. The State street people had the "gaol and house of correction" and argued that the court house naturally should be in the same locality, while the other side contended for the retention of the building in the "business center."

However, after a protracted and interesting contest the advocates of the site on the square prevailed with the controlling powers and carried the day; but this was accomplished only after the display of a spirit of public enterprise on their part. The occasion brought into prominence many new factors in local his-



An old-time view of Main street, near State street, Springfield

tory, such men as Daniel Bontecou, Eleazer Williams, Elijah Blake, Justice Willard, Edward Pynchon, Thomas Dickman, James Wells, John Ingersoll, Henry Brewer, Solomon Warriner, David Ames, Elisha Edwards, Sylvester Clark, Japhet Chapin, Samuel Osgood, Dr. John Stone, Daniel C. Brewer, Alexander Bliss, John Hooker, Moses Howe, Thomas Sargeant, F. A.

Packard, Elisha Curtis, Ebenezer Russell, Joseph Pease, Quartus Chapin, John Hooker, jun., Pliny Chapin, Lewis Ferre, jun., Charles Stearns, Simon Sanburn, Israel E. Trask, Joseph Carver, Edward Bliss, A. G. Tannat, Daniel Lombard, Francis Bliss, Robert W. Bowhill, Roswell Lombard, Jacob Bliss, Oliver B. Morris, George Blake, James Chapin, Roger Adams, Ebenezer Tucker and others who were identified with them in their efforts to promote the general welfare of the town but whose names have been lost with the lapse of years.

These men, who were instrumental in securing the location of the county building on the public square, organized themselves into a purchasing company and acquired title to a considerable tract of land, gave a large lot for the structure and another for the park square, and laid out the remainder into village lots for mercantile purposes, thus permanently establishing Main street as the principal business thoroughfare for all future time. This being accomplished the court of sessions directed Moses Bliss and John Ingersoll to see that the proprietors carried out their offer; and in the erection of the court house in 1821 (the old building still stands and now is the Odd Fellows' temple) Jonathan Dwight, John Phelps, Daniel Bontecou and George R. Townsley were conspicuous figures.

Previous to this time (1813-14) the jail on State street was built, and in connection with its construction the court of sessions had recourse to the services of such men of the town as Jonathan Smith, jun., Jonathan Dwight, Daniel Lombard, Jonathan Dwight, jun., Oliver B. Morris, John Phelps, William Sheldon, George Bliss and others whose names cannot be recalled. That the people of the town were truly and unselfishly public-spirited, whether in their personal concerns or in the public welfare, it may be stated that in 1808 a fugitive slave named "Jenny" had escaped from her master in Schenectady, N. Y., and found refuge among our people. She was pursued and overtaken, and when her owner would have returned with her to his home the generous people of Springfield quickly raised $100 by subscription and purchased her freedom.

Having determined the site for and completing the erection of the county buildings, the authorities gave attention to the

matter of laying out public streets and avenues in the business portions of the town. At this time the population had reached about 4,400 inhabitants and was increasing steadily each year. Many events of note had taken place since the beginning of the century, some of them being worthy of passing mention in this place. In 1811 the Baptist people had become sufficiently strong to plant a church of their denomination. In 1812 the old academy on Elm street was opened. In 1814 the Springfield bank began business, its incorporators being a portion of the men whose names have been mentioned in connection with other early enterprises of the town. In 1815 the Methodists, whose missionaries had visited the town twenty years before, succeeded in planting a church, which still survives and from which has grown many other churches of later date. In 1817 the Hampden Masonic lodge was organized. In the same year President Monroe visited Springfield and was entertained with appropriate ceremony. In 1819 Court square was formally laid out and donated to the public, and in the same year there was erected the edifice of the old First church which still stands facing the square. In 1821 the Hampden coffee house, a famous hostelry in its day, was built on the corner where now stands the Smith & Murray building. In 1821, also, the First Protestant Episcopal church was established and a Baptist church was erected at the Watershops. In 1823 a cotton factory was built on Chicopee river.

The construction of the cotton mill on Chicopee river was the beginning of the industrial era in that locality which eventually brought that region into special prominence and resulted in the creation of a new town from the mother territory of Springfield. In 1831 the legislature incorporated the Springfield canal company and authorized the construction of a water-power canal, locks and factories. Thus the waters of that river were first diverted for manufacturing purposes. The proprietors of the enterprise were Benjamin Day, James Brewer, Samuel Henshaw, Edmund Dwight, Jonathan Dwight, jun., Francis Stanton, Israel Thorndike, Harrison Gray Otis, Samuel A. Eliot, William H. Eliot, George W. Lyman, James K. Mills, Gorham

Brooks and George Bliss. In 1837 the Indian Orchard canal company was incorporated for the purpose of establishing similar industries adjacent to the river at a point a little farther up the stream. This company comprised Charles Stearns, George Bliss, William Dwight and their associates.

The notable events of 1824 included the destruction by fire of an important part of the armory buildings, and the founding of the Springfield Republican, a weekly newspaper under the proprietorship of Samuel Bowles, and a paper which not only has enjoyed a continuous and prosperous existence to the present time, but one which in later years became recognized as one of the leading journals of the entire country. In the year mentioned the town supported at least two newspapers, the Hampden Journal, under the editorial management of Frederick A. Packard, who appears to have combined journalism with the practice of law, and the Republican, founded, owned and conducted by Mr. Bowles.

Glancing over the columns of these papers for the year mentioned, we find the names and generally the "ads" of the prominent business men and firms of the town. In the issue of the Journal on January 7, P. Dickinson, whose place of business was opposite the post-office, offered for sale a miscellaneous assortment of brass andirons, shovels, tongs, fire fenders and silverware. Day, Brewer & Dwight, who were the leading merchants of the place, made public request for the speedy settlement of all outstanding accounts which were charged on their books previous to July, 1823. John Avery "wants immediately" an apprentice to learn the blacksmith trade, and says that a lad of fifteen years of age "will find good encouragement."

As an evidence that the spiritual as well as the temporal welfare of the people had a place in the editorial mind, the Journal office announces for sale "a few copies of the family bible," also the "Life and Conversion of Col. Gardner," and "Dodd's Comfort to the Afflicted." Moses Bliss, who in many ways had been an important factor in the town's history, now contemplating a change in his business, requested immediate payment from all persons indebted to him. George Colton made a like request

and intimated that unsettled accounts would be left with an attorney for collection. Flagg & Chapin, general merchants, offered for sale a large stock of goods. E. Woodworth (opposite the armory) announced that he had just received 500 lbs. of English brass kettles, 50 dozen sleigh bells and a large quantity of general merchandise. H. Edwards suggested that buyers will find it to their interest to call and examine his stock of buffalo robes, fur caps, fresh superfine flour, general merchandise, drugs, chemicals etc.

Daniel Bontecou, ever alive to the wants of the people, "has remaining on hand a few cooking, parlor, office and box stoves, which will be disposed of at reduced prices," indicating that "bargain day" attractions were not wholly unknown to our forefathers, even among stove dealers. The Springfield brewery offered a constant supply of winter and summer ale in barrels, and intimated that all who intended to return their barrels of the last season must do so before February 21. Dwight & Colton, brick manufacturers, offer 250,000 merchantable brick at market prices. The proprietors of the Hartford & Walpole mail stage take occasion to thank the inhabitants of Springfield for their liberal patronage, and beg leave to inform them that the stage will continue to run as usual three times a week each way, and will stop hereafter to take up passengers and baggage at the house of Jeremy Warriner. (It is not surprising that the stage people should select the famous old Bates tavern as the starting place for mail coaches, for Uncle Jerry and Aunt Phoebe were hosts of great prominence in Springfield during the stage coach period, while the Bates tavern was the rendezvous of all the worthies of the town who enjoyed the open-handed hospitality of the table and likewise had a keen appreciation of Uncle Jerry's toddies and slings. No severe winter cold could withstand the potent effects of one of these decoctions.)

Bangs & Ellis (Joseph and Allen Bangs and Ebenezer Ellis) in a generous "ad" announce the fact that they have just formed a business connection and are "carrying on the Cupola furnace in all its various branches, one mile south of the court house." In this connection it is interesting to note that the Cu-

pola furnace at that time was a leading industry on Mill river, and was a foundry and machine shop, the somewhat peculiar distinguishing name of which is still remembered by a few of our oldest residents.

In the same number of the paper Henry E. Stearns called for prompt payment of outstanding accounts. The Springfield fire insurance company announces that it continues to effect insurance against loss by fire; Geo. Bliss, jun., secretary. The proprietors of the steamboat Experiment advertise the season's running of their boat between Hartford and New London. Joseph Carew takes occasion to say, under the heading of "Fair Play," that every claim he has by note or book, which is due and unsettled February 1st, will be placed in other hands for collection; "that recent circumstances render this course indispensable." This announcement was quite characteristic of Mr. Carew, for he was an upright, straightforward business man, meeting his own obligations promptly and exacting from others only his just due. He was a worthy type of Springfield's best element of citizenship three-quarters of a century ago, and the preservation of his name in one of the principal streets of the city is a fitting tribute to his memory. Gideon Kibbe, whose place of business at that time is not recalled, also requests settlement of outstanding accounts.

Dennis Morgan, having given up "riding post," asks all persons to settle without delay, and adds, "payment must be made peaceably or forcibly." From this it is clear that the ex-post rider meant business with those who had failed to requite his services. Charles Stearns advertises a "store to let, conveniently fitted up for dry goods and groceries." Another notice from the Journal informs the public that "at the old stand in the Carew building" the office does job work of every description. Solomon Warriner, enterprising merchant and representative of one of our best families, announces that he has on hand for sale the publications of the American tract society, and also "Dr. Wood's lecture on Quotations."

T. Dickman, the bookseller, whose surname is not now known in the city, offers in connection with his general stock the cele-

brated "Chemical Embrocation," or "Whitwell's Liquid Opodeldoc," for the cure of bruises, sprains, gout and rheumatism. Stearns & Hunt, at their store opposite Court square, have a general stock of drugs, medicines, oils, dye stuffs, etc., etc. Elisha Edwards represents New York manufacturers in the sale of maccoboy snuff and "paper tobacco," equal to any in the United States. Robert Russell, according to his "ad," offers to bind all books and guarantees "fidelity, promptness and reasonable prices."

The Republican made its initial appearance in the latter part of 1824 and appears to have filled "a long felt want" in the community. At all events it found favor with the public and soon gained that which most delights the average publisher—a liberal advertising patronage. In one of the September numbers is found the advertisement of Solomon Warriner, who has a complete stock of fall and winter goods. Bontecou & Hunt call special attention to their "European and India goods," groceries, crockery and glassware. C. Smith does house and sign painting, having a place of business opposite the Springfield hotel. Henry Brewer makes special announcement of 500 lbs. of good cheese, also mackerel in barrels and half barrels. Howard & Lathrop offer cash pay for paper rags in large and small quantities. S. D. & W. Sturges (a new name in local annals) manufacture white marble tombstones. S. Hatch gives "last notice" that accounts must be settled by debtors or they will be left with Justice Willard for collection.

In the same issue Justice Willard and William Bliss give public notice that they have formed a law partnership, under the name of Willard & Bliss, for the "transaction of business in the line of their profession." J. B. Pitkin announces that he has engaged Mr. Stockbridge's assembly room for the purpose of giving lessons in shorthand and plain and ornamental penmanship. (In view of this announcement it is somewhat surprising that the era of the office stenographer and typewriter should have been so long delayed.)

In a special notice printed in the columns of the paper Mr. Bowles states that he has just received from New York a variety

of job type, and that he is ready "to execute" all kinds of fancy job printing. Isaiah Call, whose store was located near the bank at the corner of what now is Main and Elm streets, offers for sale his stock of stoves and hollow ware of all descriptions. G. W. Callender has a general stock of books and stationery, does binding, and says he has need of a boy of good habits to learn the trade of book binding and to "clerk" in the store. Robert Russell is another bookseller and stationer, having a place of business opposite the Springfield hotel.

Albert Morgan, opposite the armory, carries on a grocery store, and keeps in stock a generous supply of St. Croix rum, Holland gin, lump and brown sugars, mackerel, flour, etc. James Wells, as agent, offers to insure against loss or damage by fire in the Aetna insurance company of Hartford.

On October 6, Ames & Reynolds announce having received an extensive assortment of new and fashionable goods. In the issue of October 12 Bliss & Morris announce the arrival of a large consignment of European, India and American goods. E. Edwards, opposite the Springfield hotel, offers 150 bbls. and half barrels of mackerel, also drugs, medicines, paints, oils, dye woods, wines and liquors. James Wells evidently was the pioneer of the millinery business in the town, announcing a supply of staple and fancy goods in that line, and also, incidentally, a few Philadelphia cooking stoves. On October 27 Bowdoin & Carew, successors to W. H. Bowdoin, with a place of business opposite the armory, advertise for sale a large stock of general merchandise. Cook & Wilcox, in front of the Springfield brewery, carry on business as tinsmiths, and deal in sheet iron pipe and live hens' and geese feathers.

This brief and somewhat incomplete retrospect gives the reader an idea of the character and extent of the business interests of Springfield at the time indicated, and from what is stated it must be seen that the growth of the town from the beginning of the century was both steady and healthful. About this time public attention was attracted by and considerable interest was taken in the general movement in the direction of building canals through various sections of the state. The canal era was the

natural outgrowth of river navigation and one of its most important auxiliaries. The early attempts at steamboat navigation on the Connecticut, so far at least as concerned Springfield, were experimental and it was not until 1828 that Thomas Blanchard launched the "Blanchard" and succeeded in making the trip to Hartford in a little less than three hours. However, this first attempt was regarded as a reasonable success and during the next eight or ten years several other steamboats were built here and put into regular service, as may be seen by reference to the chapter relating to internal improvements. The most

St. Luke's M. E. Church, Springfield

notable events of 1828 were the launching of the Blanchard and the ceremonies attending the opening of the town hall, on which latter occasion George Bliss delivered the address that so frequently has formed the basis of subsequent narratives by historical writers.

Springfield never directly enjoyed the advantages of a navigable canal, although one was projected for the town as part of an extensive system of waterways across the state. In the early stages of the discussion local public spirit was fully awakened and men of substance readily gave support to the proposed enterprise, yet before their plans were fully matured the canal scheme

was abandoned by eastern capitalists, and an innovation—a railroad—was suggested to connect Boston with Albany, crossing the Connecticut at Springfield. At first the town did not take kindly to the railroad scheme and was not yet ready to abandon the cherished canal project in favor of an unknown and doubtful medium of traffic and travel as was suggested. Local capitalists shook their knowing heads dubiously and grave apprehensions filled the public mind. Surveyors and promoters made frequent visits to the town and as often conferences were held at which the new idea was the uppermost topic of discussion; yet Springfield was slow to act, and it was not until Hartford came forward with a request that the line of road be laid through that town, instead of Springfield, that a favorable sentiment was aroused here and earnest co-operation was given to the enterprise.

Notwithstanding the manifest lack of enthusiasm shown by Springfield during the early stages of the railroad agitation, the measure had a few zealous advocates among the townspeople. Those foremost in the work were Justice Willard, George Bliss, Caleb Rice, W. H. Bowdoin, with a few others whose names are not recalled, while Edmund Dwight, then of Boston but of substantial Springfield stock, added his influence in bringing about the desired end. Foremost among all, however, were Mr. Willard and his law partner, Mr. Bliss. At one of the several public meetings held in the town for a general discussion of the subject Mr. Willard, who was famed at the bar as a special pleader, addressed an audience in these words:

"I am told that I am apt to be too sanguine, but when I consider the improvements of the age, the new discoveries that must hereafter be made in that wonderful machine, the steam engine, and the new applications of the power of steam, I believe, and I am ready to declare—and I do declare, here, before this audience—and some of you may make note of it, that during the lifetime of some persons standing here, a train of cars will run from Springfield to Boston, between sun and sun." And then pausing and drawing himself up, and shaking his finger with oracular solemnity, he continued: "Yes, sir, I repeat, between sun and sun! and back again in the same day."

This public utterance was received with satisfaction and loud applause, but in certain minds it was regarded as the workings of vain imagination. At all events the labors of the friends of the road had a telling effect upon the town and the enterprise thereafter received more cordial support. A few years later—October, 1839,—the first train of the Western railroad corporation was run from Worcester to Springfield, and on its arrival a great throng of people was assembled at the station to celebrate the occasion and hear the congratulatory address of the gifted Edward Everett. Before the entire line was completed a road was built through the Connecticut valley, and then still others of later years until Springfield became recognized as a principal seat of railroad operations; and the early prominence which the town enjoyed in this respect as a railroad center was the most potent factor in its subsequent growth and more than all other elements combined contributed to the progress and prosperity of the town and its people. The steam railroads superseded the mail and passenger stages and likewise made river navigation unprofitable. The municipalities and manufacturing and trading centers were greatly benefited by the change, but the advantage which accrued to purely agricultural districts is questionable. The old station on the west side of Main street was built in 1851. The tracks were elevated, and the arch and the new union station were built in 1888-89. A more detailed history of railroad interests in Hampden county will be found in the chapter on internal improvements.

However, let us return to an earlier period of town history and briefly mention some of the more important events in local annals. In 1830 the old primitive fire department was succeeded by a more modern system, one in keeping with the advanced condition of the town. In 1831 the Pynchon mansion, frequently called Ft. Pynchon, was torn down. In 1832 the Ames paper factory, the largest concern of its kind in the country, was established. In 1834 the first friction matches "in the world" were made in Chicopee. In 1834 the "old corner bookstore," long a business interest of note, was opened. In 1836 Springfield celebrated its bi-centennial anniversary. In 1841 Springfield cemetery was

consecrated. In 1842 Charles Dickens, the famed novelist, visited Springfield and voyaged thence down the Connecticut to Hartford on the steamboat Massachusetts. In 1846 John Brown, the abolitionist, who afterward aroused the civilized world in his efforts to overthrow the slave power in this country, came to Springfield and engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods. Three years later he organized the "Springfield Gileadites," an order of negro people whose purpose was to prevent the capture and return to bondage of fugitive slaves. In 1848 the north part of the town was set off to form Chicopee, and by that action the mother town was territorially reduced substantially to its present limits. In 1852 Louis Kossuth visited Springfield, and in the same year the Young Men's Christian association of this city was organized.

The most notable event of the year 1852 was that by which Springfield laid aside its former municipal character of town and became a chartered city, entitled to and accorded by the legislature all the privileges and powers vested in municipal bodies politic in this state. In 1636 the little plantation of Agawam was founded and then numbered hardly a dozen inhabitants. Five years later the plantation became a town by the name of Springfield, and in the course of a few more years its territory and jurisdiction were so extended that the town in fact amounted to a principality. This limited municipal character was maintained for two hundred and eleven years, until 1852, when, having acquired the necessary number of inhabitants, the town was incorporated as a city. In 1850 the population was 11,766, an increase of nearly 1,000 inhabitants since 1840, and that despite the fact that in 1848 Chicopee was set off and took from the mother town more than 8,000 persons and almost half her remaining territory. In 1845 the town as then constituted had attained a population sufficient to warrant a city charter, but such action at the time was not advisable as the territory was too extensive in area to justify the measure. The creation of Chicopee was suggested as a matter of public necessity and convenience, and when accomplished the territory of Springfield was reduced to an area that justified its incorporation as a city. This being done the old

board of selectmen passed out of existence and in its stead there was created the executive and legislative departments of the city —the mayoralty and the board of aldermen. The exact population of the city in 1852 was 12,498 inhabitants.

Under the new form of municipal government all interests were greatly promoted and at once the young city entered upon another era of prosperity, which has continued to the present time. The new conditions created new and added responsibilities upon the people as well as upon the governing authorities. In 1856[1] the residents in the localities known as the Hill, the Watershops and Indian Orchard set on foot a movement looking to the creation of still another town from the remaining territory of Springfield, but being apprehensive of an additional burden of taxes by reason of the measure, if carried into effect, the project was abandoned.

In 1857 the City library association was formed, a consolidation of the older institutions known as the Young Men's literary association and the Young Men's institute. Previous to the erection of the present building on State street the library was kept in the city hall. In 1869 the Springfield street railway was incorporated, the outgrowth of which is the admirable electric street railway system—a system and service that is unsurpassed in New England, and one which is known as one of the most complete systems of "trolley" road in the United States. The first electric car in this city was run in June, 1890.

In 1876 the Connecticut Valley Historical society was organized, and in 1877 the Springfield Botanical society and the Union Relief association were formed. In 1883 the first tract of land for Forest park was acquired and the Springfield hospital was incorporated. In 1886 the school for Christian workers was opened. This institution eventually developed into the Bible Normal college and the International Y. M. C. A. training school. In the same year the Springfield home for aged women was opened.

In 1886, on May 25-6, was celebrated the 250th anniversary of the founding of Springfield, an occasion of great felicitation

[1]The city hall was built in this year. The police department building was erected in 1892.

and congratulation. The state honored the event and poured forth its great mass of loyal citizens to join in the festivities of the day. The committee of fifty, to whom was entrusted the details of the celebration, was comprised as follows: William L. Smith, chairman; Charles C. Spellman, secretary; William H. Haile, treasurer; William S. Shurtleff, H. S. Hyde, H. M. Phillips, L. J. Powers, E. Morgan, James A. Rumrill, A. B. Wallace, R. F. Hawkins, H. E. Ducker, C. E. Brown, E. H. Lathrop, S. C. Warriner, Daniel J. Marsh, J. D. Gill, E. P. Chapin, J. B. Carroll, Theo. Geisel, Milton Bradley, C. J. Goodwin, C. W. Mutell, E. H. Phelps, Robert O. Morris, L. C. Hyde, George H. Bleloch, T. O. Bemis, Samuel B. Spooner, F. W. Dickinson, Edward Pynchon, F. H. Stebbins, Dr. C. D. Brewer, Willmore B. Stone, P. S. Bailey, E. C. Rogers, H. S. Lee, George H. Queen, E. C. Washburn, J. D. Stafford, George A. Morton, E. A. Newell, Frank D. Foot, J. J. Toomey, C. C. Merritt, A. H. Goetting, Nathan D. Bill, F. A. Judd, Henry W. Blake and James McKechnie.

The honorary committee chosen to represent the outlying towns comprised J. Henry Churchill, Reuben DeWitt, Rev. Ralph Perry and C. C. Wright, for Agawam; Loranus E. Hitchcock, George M. Stearns, J. B. Wood, Matthew Ryan, T. W. Carter, Rev. B. K. Bellamy, F. H. Morton and Harrison Munger, for Chicopee; A. C. Burleigh, Decius Beebe, Simeon Smith and Dr. George T. Ballard, for Hampden; W. A. Chase, William B. C. Pearsons, William Whiting, W. S. Loomis, J. J. O'Connor, Timothy Merrick, James H. Newton and R. B. Johnson, for Holyoke; Oliver Wolcott, T. F. Cordis, James Bliss and A. H. Calkins, for Longmeadow; B. F. Burr, L. H. Brigham, C. F. Grosvenor and Rev. M. P. Dickey, for Ludlow; Joseph W. Bicknell, John Boyle, Charles D. Abell and George W. Hamilton, for Southwick; Edward B. Gillett, Lyman N. Clark, L. F. Thayer, Milton B. Whitney, L. B. Walkley, J. R. Dunbar, Henry Fuller and Henry W. Ely, for Westfield; R. Mather Bagg, E. C. Brooks, B. F. Trask and George Wright, for West Springfield; J. W. Bliss, F. E. Clark, M. F. Breck and Ira G. Potter, for Wilbraham; J. L. Houston, Samuel Hathaway, Joseph Allen and Thompson Grant, for Enfield; W. B. Woods, S. M. Billings, H. R. Kibbe

and D. B. Pomeroy, for Somers; J. Luther Sherman, W. L. Loomis, A. C. Allen and H. K. Wright, for Suffield.

The celebration exercises in fact were begun on Sunday, when in each of the city churches special services appropriate to the occasion were conducted. In the more formal ceremonies of the following days the presiding officer and the vice-presidents were as follows:

Dr. Joseph C. Pynchon, president of the day; and vice-presidents, William L. Smith, Marcus P. Knowlton, Gideon Wells, Elisha B. Maynard, Eliphalet Trask, Homer Foot, Major Edward Ingersoll, Henry Fuller, jr., Harvey Sanderson, Bishop B. T. O'Reilly, of Springfield; E. K. Bodurtha, of Agawam; George S. Taylor, of Chicopee; William R. Sessions, of Hampden; Oscar Ely, of Holyoke; Stephen T. Colton, of Longmeadow; Marvin King, of Ludlow; Joseph N. Forward, of Southwick; Samuel Fowler, of Westfield; Aaron Bagg, of West Springfield; John M. Merrick, of Wilbraham; Charles Brisco, of Enfield; Amos Pease, of Somers; H. S. Sheldon, of Suffield.

All Hampden county, and thousands from beyond the borders of the county, took part in the celebration, but those who were active participants, in the capacity of orators, speakers, essayists or otherwise, were William L. Smith, chairman and speaker; Marcus Perrin Knowlton, presiding officer; Edwin D. Metcalf, speaker; Gov. George Dexter Robinson, orator; John L. Houston (of Enfield) orator; Judge Henry Morris, historical address; William S. Shurtleff, poet (author of "Anniversary Ode"); Edward H. Lathrop, toastmaster; George M. Stearns, orator; William H. Haile, speaker; A. E. Pillsbury, speaker; Samuel Bowles, speaker; Dr. Theodore Pynchon, speaker; Mayor O'Connor (of Holyoke), speaker; David A. Wells, speaker; Gen. H. C. Dwight (of Hartford), speaker; United States Senator Dawes (of Pittsfield), speaker; R. R. Comr. Kinsley, speaker; Rev. John Cuckson, speaker; Rev. John Harding, speaker. The second day of the celebration was devoted especially to a monster civic-military parade and demonstration, and the occasion was closed with a largely attended ball.

Having thus briefly and in a general way traced the history and gradual growth of the town of Springfield from the time of

founding the Agawam plantation to the incorporation of the city, and thence to the bi-centennial anniversary, and having referred incidentally at least to the more important events which have taken place during that long period, it is proposed in succeeding chapters to analyze the subject of the city's history and treat each element separately, giving proper attention to accomplished results, and presenting to the reader the names of men who have been contributing factors in producing those results. However, before closing the present chapter we may have recourse to the census reports and note the changes in number of inhabitants in the town and city as the same is indicated by the returns of the enumerators. It may be said, however, that the figures here cannot be taken as a true index of the town's growth previous to 1850, from the fact that the frequent division of the territory and the creation of other towns occasionally took from Springfield some of its most thickly populated districts.

The colonial census of 1776 gave the town 1,974 inhabitants. The first regular federal census was taken in 1790, and subsequently at the close of each decade. The state enumeration of population was begun in 1855. In 1790 the population was 1,574; 1800, 2,312; 1810, 2,767; 1820, 3,914; 1830, 6,784; 1840, 10,985; 1850, 11,766; 1855, 13,788; 1860, 15,199; 1865, 22,035; 1870, 26,703; 1875, 31,053; 1880, 33,340; 1885, 37,535; 1890, 44,179; 1895, 51,522; 1900, 62,059.

SELECTMEN OF SPRINGFIELD 1644-1852.

1644-45—Henry Smith, Thomas Cooper, Samuel Chapin, Richard Sikes, Henry Burt.

1646—Henry Smith, Elizur Holyoke, Samuel Chapin, Henry Burt, Benj. Cooley.

1647-49—Henry Smith, Samuel Chapin, Thomas Cooper, Henry Burt, Benj. Cooley.

1650—John Pynchon, Henry Smith, Samuel Chapin, Henry Burt, Thomas Cooper.

1651—John Pynchon, Samuel Chapin, George Colton, Henry Burt, Thomas Cooper.

1652—John Pynchon, Samuel Chapin, George Colton, Henry Burt, Benj. Cooley, Thomas Stebbins, Joseph Parsons.

1653—George Colton, Robert Ashley, Thomas Cooper, Benj. Cooley, Thomas Stebbins.

1654—Thomas Cooper, George Colton, Robert Ashley, Henry Burt, Benj. Cooley.

1655—Miles Morgan, John Dumbleton, George Colton, Thos. Stebbins, John Stebbins.

1656—Thomas Cooper, George Colton, Thomas Gilbert, Benj. Cooley, Robt. Ashley.

1657—Robert Ashley, Miles Morgan, John Dumbleton, Jonathan Burt, Thomas Gilbert.

Memorial Church, Springfield

1658—Thomas Cooper, Benjamin Cooley, Jonathan Burt, William Warriner, Robert Ashley.

1659—In this year the day for choosing town officers was changed from the first Tuesday in November to the first Tuesday in February, and the selectmen of 1658 served until February, 1660.

1660—Thomas Gilbert, Benj. Parsons, John Dumbleton, Miles Morgan, John Pynchon.

1661—Elizur Holyoke, Samuel Chapin, Thomas Cooper, Benj. Cooley, Robt. Ashley.

1662—John Pynchon, Nathaniel Ely, Elizur Holyoke, Geo. Colton, Miles Morgan.

1663—John Pynchon, Benj. Cooley, Robert Ashley, Thomas Cooper, Samuel Marshfield.

1664—Samuel Chapin, Nathaniel Ely, George Colton, Rowland Thomas, Elizur Holyoke.

1665—John Pynchon, Benjamin Cooley, George Colton, Samuel Marshfield, Lawrence Bliss.

1666—Ensign Cooper, Robert Ashley, John Dumbleton, Benjamin Parsons, Elizur Holyoke.

1667—George Colton, Nathaniel Ely, Benjamin Cooley, Rowland Thomas, Samuel Marshfield.

1668—Thomas Cooper, Miles Morgan, John Dumbleton, Benjamin Parsons, Elizur Holyoke.

1669—John Pynchon, George Colton, Nathaniel Ely, Samuel Marshfield, Lawrence Bliss.

1670—Elizur Holyoke, Thomas Cooper, Benjamin Cooley, Benjamin Parsons, Henry Chapin.

1671—John Pynchon, George Colton, Samuel Marshfield, Rowland Thomas, John Dumbleton.

1672—Nathaniel Ely, Benjamin Cooley, Benjamin Parsons, Anthony Dorchester, Elizur Holyoke.

1673—George Colton, Samuel Marshfield, Thomas Cooper, John Dumbleton, Henry Chapin.

1674—Nathaniel Ely, Thomas Cooper, Benjamin Parsons, Elizur Holyoke.

1675—George Colton, Samuel Marshfield, John Dumbleton, Henry Chapin, Jeremy Horton.

1676—Benjamin Cooley, Jonathan Burt, John Keep, John Hitchcock, Elizur Holyoke. (Samuel Marshfield was chosen in place of Elizur Holyoke, deceased, and Anthony Dorchester was chosen to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Keep, who was killed by the Indians, March 26.)

1677—George Colton, John Dumbleton, Benjamin Parsons, Henry Chapin, John Dorchester.

1678—Samuel Marshfield, Japhet Chapin, John Hitchcock, Nathaniel Burt, John Holyoke.

1679—John Holyoke, George Colton, Benjamin Parsons, John Dumbleton, Henry Chapin.

1680—Benjamin Cooley, Samuel Marshfield, Jonathan Burt, Japhet Chapin, John Hitchcock.

1681—Daniel Denton, John Holyoke, George Colton, Benjamin Parsons, John Dumbleton.

1682—Joseph Parsons, Dea. Jonathan Burt, Thomas Day, John Hitchcock, John Holyoke.

1683—Samuel Marshfield, Benjamin Parsons, John Dumbleton, Japhet Chapin, James Warriner.

1684—Jonathan Burt, Henry Chapin, John Hitchcock, Samuel Ball, John Holyoke.

1685—George Colton, Samuel Marshfield, Benj. Parsons, John Dumbleton, Samuel Bliss.

1686—Japhet Chapin, John Hitchcock, Samuel Ball, Thomas Stebbins, John Holyoke.

1687—Jonathan Burt, Benjamin Parsons, Henry Chapin, John Dumbleton, Luke Hitchcock.

1688—Samuel Marshfield, Japhet Chapin, John Hitchcock, Samuel Ball, John Holyoke.

1689—Japhet Chapin, Samuel Hitchcock, Samuel Ball, Thomas Colton, James Warriner, Thomas Stebbins.

1690—John Dumbleton, Jonathan Burt, Benjamin Parsons, Henry Chapin, Abel Wright. (This board was chosen in May, 1689, in accordance with the act changing the day of election from February to May.)

1690—Japhet Chapin, John Hitchcock, James Warriner, Thomas Stebbins, John Holyoke.

1691—Jonathan Burt, Henry Chapin, John Dumbleton, Isaac Colton, John Holyoke.

1692—Japhet Chapin, Samuel Colton, Samuel Bliss, Thomas Stebbins, John Barber.

1693—John Hitchcock, Eliakim Cooley, Joseph Stebbins, Jonathan Ball, John Holyoke.

1694—Pelatiah Glover, John Dorchester, Joseph Stebbins, Nathaniel Bliss, David Morgan.

1695—Thomas Cooper, Thomas Colton, Daniel Cooley, Charles Ferre, sr., John Holyoke.

1696—John Pynchon, jr., James Warriner, Luke Hitchcock, Edward Stebbins, Benjamin Leonard.

1697—Jonathan Burt, Henry Chapin, James Warriner, sr., Samuel Bliss, sr., John Warner.

1698—John Hitchcock, Benjamin Stebbins, Pelatiah Glover, Abel Wright, John Warner.

1699—Isaac Colton, John Hitchcock, Samuel Bliss, sr., Joseph Stebbins, John Myrick.

1700—Joseph Stebbins, Edward Stebbins, Japhet Chapin, James Warriner, sr., Thomas Colton.

1701—Henry Chapin, Pelatiah Glover, John Barber, David Morgan, Ebenezer Parsons.

1702—John Pynchon, jr., Pelatiah Glover, John Barber, John Warner, Samuel Ely.

1703—Eliakim Cooley, Joseph Stebbins, Edward Stebbins, John Warner, Nathaniel Munn.

1704—Luke Hitchcock, sr., James Warriner, sr., Edward Stebbins, Benjamin Leonard, Joseph Williston.

1705—John Pynchon, jr., Joseph Stebbins, Luke Hitchcock, sr., Joseph Cooley, sr., John Merrick.

1706—John Pynchon, jr., Eliakim Cooley, Ebenezer Parsons, John Miller, Nathaniel Burt, jr.

1707—Thomas Colton, John Merrick, Samuel Bliss 3d, Henry Burt, John Holyoke.

1708—John Hitchcock, sr., Edward Stebbins, John Ferre, Benj. Leonard, John Holyoke.

1709—John Hitchcock, sr., John Merrick, John Day, Pelatiah Bliss, John Holyoke.

1710—John Pynchon, jr., Edward Stebbins, John Burt, sr., Nathaniel Munn, Samuel Bliss 3d.

1711—Joseph Cooley, sr., Tilley Merrick, John Miller, Thos. Horton, John Holyoke.

1712—Luke Hitchcock, sr., Joseph Stebbins, sr., John Merrick, Samuel Bliss 3d, John Ferre.

1713—Pelatiah Glover, Ebenezer Parsons, Nathaniel Burt, jr., Henry Burt, John Day.

1714—Pelatiah Glover, John Merrick, Joseph Cooley, sr., John Ferre, Thomas Terry.

1715—John Pynchon, James Mirick, Samuel Bliss 3d, Luke Hitchcock, Pelatiah Glover.

1716—John Ferre, sr., James Warriner 2d, John Pynchon, Joseph Stebbins, Samuel Ely.

1717—Joseph Stebbins, John Mirick, Samuel Bliss 3d, John Ferre, Samuel Day.

1718—John Ferre, Samuel Bliss 3d, Henry Burt, John Worthington, Joseph Parsons.

1719—Samuel Day, Samuel Ely, Ebenezer Parsons, John Day, James Merrick.

1720—Luke Hitchcock, John Ferre, Samuel Bliss 3d, Henry Burt, James Warriner, jr.

1721—Joseph Stebbins, Joseph Cooley, Samuel Bliss 3d, Thomas Bliss, sr., Increase Sikes.

1722—John Mirick, John Ferre, Ephraim Colton, John Worthington, Increase Sikes.

1723—Samuel Bliss 2d, Joseph Stebbins, Ephraim Colton, Samuel Day, John Day.

1724—John Ferre, James Warriner, Samuel Bliss 2d, Nathaniel Sikes, Increase Sikes.

1725—Luke Hitchcock, Ephraim Colton, John Ferre, Samuel Bliss 2d, Joseph Williston.

1726—James Warriner, John Bagg, John Hitchcock, Joseph Williston, Henry Burt.

1727—Samuel Bliss 2d, John Ferre, Ephraim Colton, John Day, John Worthington.

1728—Samuel Bliss, Ebenezer Warriner, Ephraim Colton, John Day, John Ferre.

1729—James Warriner, John Day, Ebenezer Warriner, John Burt, Ephraim Colton.

1730—James Warriner, Ebenezer Warriner, John Burt, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins.

1731—Samuel Bliss, Joseph Williston, James Warriner, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins.

1732—Joseph Williston, John Worthington, Pelatiah Bliss, Thomas Stebbins, John Day.

1733—John Burt, Luke Hitchcock 2d, John Ely, James Warriner, Ebenezer Warriner.

1734—Pelatiah Bliss, John Burt, Luke Hitchcock 2d, Ebenezer Warriner, John Ely.

1735—Pelatiah Bliss, Ebenezer Warriner, John Burt, John Ely, Luke Hitchcock 2d.

1736—John Burt, Luke Hitchcock 2d, William Pynchon, John Day, Benjamin Chapin.

1737—William Pynchon, John Day, John Burt, Luke Hitchcock 2d, Thomas Colton.

1738—William Pynchon, John Day, Pelatiah Bliss, Thomas Stebbins, Luke Hitchcock 2d.

1739—John Day, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins, John Burt, John Harmon.

1740—John Harmon, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins, John Day, Luke Hitchcock.

1741—Joseph Pynchon, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins, John Harmon, Jonathan Chapin.

1742—Joseph Pynchon, Thomas Colton, Joseph Miller, Jonathan Chapin, James Warriner.

1743—James Warriner, Joseph Miller, Thomas Stebbins, Thomas Colton, Jonathan Chapin.

1744—James Warriner, Francis Ball, John Burt, Thomas Colton, Thomas Stebbins.

1745—John Burt, James Warriner, Thomas Stebbins, Francis Ball, William Stebbins.

1746—James Warriner, Francis Ball, William Stebbins, Joseph Pynchon, Luke Hitchcock 2d, Ebenezer Hitchcock, Jonathan Church.

1747—Jonathan Church, James Warriner, Francis Ball, William Stebbins, Josiah Dwight.

1748—Jonathan Church, James Warriner, Francis Ball, William Stebbins Josiah Dwight.

1749-51—James Warriner, William Stebbins, Francis Ball, Jonathan Church, Josiah Dwight.

1752-53—Josiah Dwight, William Stebbins, Jonathan Church, James Warriner, Samuel Ely.

1754-56—Josiah Dwight, James Warriner, Jonathan Church, Nathaniel Burt, Samuel Ely.

1757—Josiah Dwight, Jonathan Church, James Warriner, Samuel Ely, Nathaniel Ely.

1758—Josiah Dwight, Jonathan Church, Samuel Ely, Nathaniel Ely 2d, Nathaniel Brewer.

1759—Josiah Dwight, Jonathan Church, Nathaniel Ely, Joseph Miller, Nathaniel Brewer.

Elm Street School, Springfield

1760—Luke Bliss, Luke Hitchcock, Joseph Miller, Josiah Dwight, Aaron Colton.

1761—John Worthington, Ebenezer Hitchcock, Benjamin Day, Aaron Colton, Edward Pynchon.

1762—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Aaron Colton, Benjamin Day, Luke Hitchcock.

1763—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Josiah Dwight, Aaron Colton.

1764—John Worthington, Josiah Dwight, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely 2d.

1765—John Worthington, Josiah Dwight, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely, Capt. Samuel Merrick.

1766-67—John Worthington, Josiah Dwight, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely 2d, Robert Harris, Samuel Merrick.

1768—John Worthington, Josiah Dwight, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Robert Harris, Nathaniel Ely, John Leonard.

1769—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Lt. Robert Harris, Nathaniel Brewer, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely.

1770—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely 2d, Nathaniel Brewer, Robert Harris, John Leonard.

1771—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely 2d, John Leonard, Moses Bliss, Daniel Harris.

1772—John Worthington, Edward Pynchon, Nathaniel Ely, John Leonard, Daniel Harris, Moses Bliss, Jonathan White.

1773—John Worthington, Col. Benjamin Day, Nathaniel Ely, Dr. Charles Pynchon, John Leonard, Dr. Jonathan White, Lt. John Leonard, Dr. Aaron Colton, Benjamin Ely.

1774—John Worthington, Moses Bliss, John Hale, Phineas Chapin, Daniel Harris.

1775—Daniel Harris, Phineas Chapin, Aaron Colton, James Silkes, William Pynchon, jr.

1776—Aaron Colton, James Sikes, William Pynchon, jr., Edward Chapin, Daniel Harris.

1777—Aaron Colton, Edward Chapin, Thomas Stebbins, Daniel Harris, William Pynchon, jr.

1778—William Pynchon, jr., Edward Chapin, David Burt, Thomas Stebbins, Phineas Chapin, Thomas Williston.

1779-80—Thomas Stebbins, Phineas Chapin, David Burt, William Pynchon, Thomas Williston.

1781-82—Phineas Chapin, Thomas Stebbins, William Pynchon, Thomas Williston, David Burt.

1783—William Pynchon, Phineas Chapin, Thomas Stebbins, Thomas Williston, David Burt.

1784—William Pynchon, Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, Ephraim Chapin, Thomas Williston.

1785-86—Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, William Pynchon, Ephraim Chapin, Capt. Thomas Stebbins.

1788—Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, William Pynchon, Ephraim Chapin, Thomas Stebbins, John Hale, Moses Field.

1789—Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, Thomas Stebbins, William Pynchon.

1790—Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, William Pynchon.

1791—William Pynchon, Moses Bliss, Reuben Bliss, Moses Church, Capt. Phineas Chapin.

1792-94—William Pynchon, Jonathan Dwight, Reuben Bliss, Moses Church, Capt. Phineas Chapin.

1795—William Pynchon, Jonathan Dwight, Reuben Bliss, Thomas Dwight, Phineas Chapin.

1796-97—William Pynchon, Jonathan Dwight, George Bliss, Thomas Dwight, Phineas Chapin.

1798—William Pynchon, Jonathan Dwight, Francis Dwight, George Bliss, Phineas Chapin.

1799-1800—William Pynchon, Jonathan Dwight, Thomas Dwight, George Bliss, Capt. Phineas Chapin.

1801—William Pynchon, Thomas Dwight, George Bliss, Capt. J. Byer, Rufus Sikes, Moses Chapin, Isaac Bliss.

1802-3—William Pynchon, Thomas Dwight, George Bliss, Rufus Sikes, Moses Chapin.

1804-8—George Bliss, John Hooker, Thomas Dwight, Rufus Sikes, Moses Chapin.

1809-11—Thomas Dwight, George Bliss, George Blake, John Hooker, Moses Chapin.

1812—Joshua Frost, Moses Chapin, Judah Chapin, Eleazer Wright, Edward Pynchon, Jonas Coolidge, Daniel Lombard, Phineas Chapin, Asher Bartlett.

1813-16—Moses Chapin, Edward Pynchon, William Sheldon, George Blake, Jonas Coolidge.

1817—William Sheldon, Edward Pynchon, Jonas Coolidge, Jacob Bliss, Joseph Pease.

1818-19—Edward Pynchon, Jacob Bliss, Jonas Coolidge, Thomas Sargeant, Joseph Pease.

1820—Edward Pynchon, Joshua Frost, Harvey Chapin, Solomon Hatch, Justin Lombard.

1821—Edward Pynchon, Justin Lombard, Solomon Hatch, William Childs, Jesse Pendleton.

1822—Jesse Pendleton, Solomon Hatch, William Childs, Joseph Carew, Simon Sanborn.

1823—John Hooker, Robert Emory, Joseph Pease, Israel E. Trask, Jonathan Dwight.

1824—Jesse Pendleton, Solomon Hatch, William Rice, George Colton, Allen Bangs.

1825—Solomon Hatch, George Colton, William Rice, Allen Bangs, Bridgeman Chapin.

1826—William Rice, Joshua Frost, Bridgeman Chapin, Henry Chapin, Solomon Hatch.

1827-28—Oliver B. Morris, George Colton, Charles Stearns, Horace King, Orange Chapin.

1829—George Colton, Charles Stearns, John B. Kirkham, Orange Chapin, Elijah Blake.

1830—John Howard, Elijah Blake, Allen Bangs, William Rice, Silas Stedman.

1831—William Bliss, Allen Bangs, Edwin Booth, Orrin Dimmick, Downer Chapin.

1832—George Bliss, Allen Bangs, Orange Chapin, Orrin Dimmick, Edwin Booth.

1833-34—Allen Bangs, Orange Chapin, George Colton, James W. Crooks, Harvey Chapin.

1835—George Ashmun Stephen C. Bemis, Walter H. Bowdoin, William Childs.

1836—George Ashmun, Stephen C. Bemis, William Cadwell.

1837—William Dwight, Walter Warriner, Ephraim S. Howard, Elihu Adams, William Chapin, Samuel Reynolds, Lewis Gorham.

1838—William Dwight, Sylvester Taylor, Gideon Gardner, James Christie, Samuel Reynolds, William Chapin, Thomas I. Shephard.

1839—William Dwight, Samuel Reynolds, Sylvester Taylor, Simon Sanborn, Silas Stedman, James Christie, Francis M. Carew.

1840-41—William Dwight, Samuel Reynolds, Simon San-

born, Francis M. Carew, Otis Skeele, William Caldwell, Pliny Chapin.

1842—Otis Skeele, Chester W. Chapin, James W. Crooks, Ezra Kimberly, Benning Leavitt, John B. Kirkham, Albert Hayden.

1843—Otis Skeele, Chester W. Chapin, John B. Kirkham, Benning Leavitt, Albert Hayden.

1844—Giles S. Chapin, Charles Howard, Benning Leavitt, John B. Kirkham, Joseph Lombard, Rufus Chandler, Theodore Williams.

1845—Henry Morris, Allen Bangs, Titus Amadon, Austin Chapin 2d, Adolphus G. Parker.

1846—Henry Morris, Austin Chapin, Adolphus G. Parker, Titus Amadon, John B. M. Stebbins, Harvey Butler, Bildad B. Belcher.

1847—Adolphus G. Parker, Bildad B. Belcher, Titus Amadon, Henry Vose, Harvey Butler, John B. M. Stebbins, Nathaniel Cutler.

1848—Solomon Hatch, Jonathan Pease, jr., William E. Montague, Waitstill Hastins, Levi C. Skeele, Edward Renney, Philo F. Wilcox.

1849—Ephraim W. Bond, Erasmus D. Beach, Harvey Danks (voted this year to have three selectmen).

1850—Erasmus D. Beach, Ephraim W. Bond, Oliver B. Bannon, Simon Sanborn, Henry Gray.

1851—Eliphalet Trask, William B. Calhoun, Theodore Stebbins.

Town Clerks—Henry Smith, 1636-52; John Pynchon, 1652-55; Elizur Holyoke, 1656; John Pynchon, 1657-60; Elizur Holyoke, 1661-76; John Holyoke, 1677-80; Daniel Denton, 1681; John Holyoke, 1682-95; John Pynchon, jr., 1696; Jonathan Burt, 1697-1700; John Pynchon, jr., 1701; John Holyoke, 1702-11; Pelatiah Bliss, 1712-15; Joseph Warriner, 1716; Pelatiah Bliss, 1717-27; William Pynchon, jr., 1728-46; Edward Pynchon, 1747-72; Benjamin Day, 1773; Edward Pynchon, 1774-75; William Pynchon, 1776-1804; Edward Pynchon, 1805-29; William Bliss, 1830-38; Richard Bliss, 1838-41; Walter H. Bowdoin, 1841; Joseph Ingraham, 1842-52.

CHAPTER IV

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—MUNICIPAL HISTORY

For fully ten years previous to the act granting the city charter Springfield frequently was involved in political disturbances growing out of the selection of public officers, for it appears that the village and country districts were arrayed against one another, on the question of improvements more than on party lines. The measures most calculated to promote the local interests of the villages of Springfield and Chicopee, and which in fact were really necessary for the good order and protection of those localities, could not directly extend their benefits throughout the entire town, hence not deriving direct advantage therefrom the inhabitants of the rural districts naturally opposed any proposition which would put increased taxes upon their lands. An examination of the records during the period referred to discloses the fact that at the annual town meetings the conflicting elements were so earnest in their endeavors that important offices frequently were left vacant for some time, and were filled only when public necessity made such action imperative and after some sort of temporary compromise had been "patched up." Usually the compromise was reached when the people of the villages consented not to insist on expenditures which affected their localities, which meant that unless some remedy was provided Springfield always would remain a non-progressive town. This principal village required increased fire and police protection, better schools, a good water supply system, street lighting and other necessary adjuncts of municipal existence, but the inhabitants of the outlying districts failed to appreciate the need of these things, hence they opposed them with their votes.

In the election of town officers, especially the board of selectmen, there was more or less rivalry between Springfield and Chicopee, the population of the places being about the same, with the advantages, if any, in favor of the former; and if the one sought to secure any appropriation for improvements the other was quite apt to oppose it successfully with the aid of the votes from the agricultural regions, which always could be relied on to reject a measure that must be paid for by taxation. At the annual town meeting in 1842 only two selectmen were agreed on and voted into office. On April 18 following five others were chosen. In the next year only one was chosen at the regular meeting, but later on, after a compromise had been effected, the remaining five were selected. In 1847 it was determined to choose seven selectmen, but at the regular meeting only three—Adolphus G. Parker, Bildad B. Belcher and Titus Amadon—were elected. At an adjourned meeting, after a truce had been agreed on, Henry Vose, Harvey Butler, John B. M. Stebbins and Nathaniel Cutler were elected to complete the full board.

About this time, perhaps a year or two earlier, the inhabitants of the principal villages demanded a division of the town and the creation of a new jurisdiction from the northern portion. Chicopee was the result, the enabling act therefor being passed by the legislature April 29, 1848. There appears to have been no real opposition to this measure, which was regarded both as a convenience and a necessity; but after it was accomplished Springfield's progress still was opposed by certain influences, now in part of a purely political character. In 1849 Ephraim W. Bond and Simon Sanborn were chosen selectmen at the regular meeting, leaving three vacancies. A little later Harvey Danks was added to the board, and still later it was voted to have but three selectmen. In 1850 a full board of five members was chosen, but in 1851 Eliphalet Trask was the only member at first elected. Then William B. Calhoun and Theodore Stebbins were added. At a subsequent meeting it was decided that the board as then constituted was illegal, and a vote ordered that the board of the preceding year be recognized and continued in office. However, by some arrangement of matters, the board of the current year transacted the business of the town.

For a year or two the leading men of both political parties had been discussing the situation of affairs in the town and arrived at the conclusion that a city charter for Springfield would have the effect to remove the old elements of opposition that had retarded growth and advancement in earlier years. At a town meeting held March 1, 1852, at which Samuel Day was moderator, it was voted "that in the opinion of the inhabitants of the town an organization under a city charter would conduce to the welfare and prosperity of the town, and that such organization ought to be adopted." And it was then further voted "that application be made to the legislature to grant the town a city charter, and that a committee of five be appointed to make such application and procure the passage of such charter;" and voted "that said committee of five shall be appointed by the moderator."

In accordance with the determination of the meeting the moderator appointed Henry Vose, John Mills, Stephen C. Bemis, George Dwight and Henry Gray as the representatives of the town in securing the passage of the charter act; and it is quite evident that the worthy commission was in full harmony with the spirit of the movement, for on April 12 of the same year the legislature passed "An act to establish the City of Springfield," the creative sections of which were as follows:

Sec. 1. "The inhabitants of the town of Springfield shall continue to be a body politic and corporate, under the name of the City of Springfield, and, as such, shall have, exercise and enjoy all the rights, immunities, powers and privileges, and be subject to all the obligations now incumbent upon, and appertaining to, said town as a municipal corporation."

Sec. 2. "The administration of the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs of said city, and the government thereof, shall be vested in one principal officer, to be styled the mayor, one council of eight, to be called the board of aldermen; and one council of eighteen, to be called the common council, which boards, in their joint capacity, shall be denominated the city council," etc.

On April 21, 1852, in less than ten days after the act was passed by the legislature, and as soon as the "warning" necessary for a legal meeting could be given, the inhabitants again assembled to act upon the adoption or rejection of the new charter. On this occasion William B. Calhoun was appointed moderator, after which the electors proceeded to vote on the question, "Shall the act entitled 'an act to establish the city of Springfield' be adopted?" The whole number of votes cast was 1,423, of which there were 969 yeas, and 454 nays.

Having ratified the action of the legislature, the meeting next proceeded to designate the five men who, under the act, were to divide the town into eight wards, and made choice of William B. Calhoun, John B. Kirkham, Theodore Stebbins, Eliphalet Trask and Joseph Ingraham for that duty. In due season the work was accomplished, upon which it was found that the several wards thus created contained a population as follows: Ward 1, 2,222; ward 2, 2,294; ward 3, 2,120; ward 4, 1,711; ward 5, 1,935; ward 6, 710; ward 7, 688; ward 8, 730.

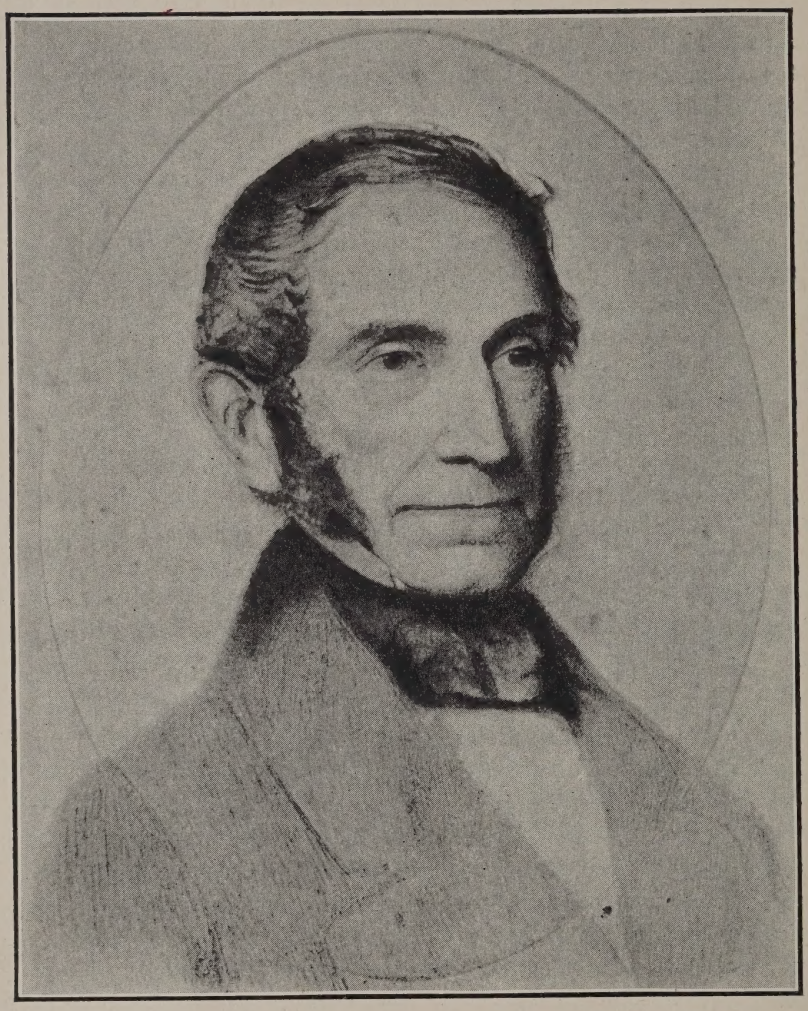
The first city election was held May 13, 1852[1], the principal contestants for the mayoralty being Caleb Rice and William B. Calhoun. Mr. Rice was elected, having received a total of 691 votes, against 642 for his opponent. Among the other prominent citizens who received complimentary votes for the same office were Erasmus D. Beach 17, Chester W. Chapin 11, John Mills 3, and J. M. Thompson, R. Cleveland, George Dwight, S. B. R. Leavis, Captain Thompson, Ethan Chapin, George Haynes and John Barber, one vote each. The total vote for city clerk and treasurer was 1,356, of which Joseph Ingraham received 1,355 and Henry Vose (who was not a candidate for any office but received one vote for each, except that of mayor), one vote. The total vote for aldermen was 1,370.

On the last used page of the last of the record books of town meetings, in the characteristic handwriting of the town clerk, there appears this entry:

"Springfield, May 25, 1852.

"This day ends the Town and commences the city govern-

[1]The city government was organized May 25, 1852.



Caleb Rice

First mayor of Springfield

ment—Having been a town just two hundred and sixteen years, to a day—And now we go from an old town to an infant city.

"Joseph Ingraham,

last town and first city clerk and treasurer of the old town and the new city of Springfield."

Occasionally during the half century of Springfield's existence as a city, the charter has been amended to meet new conditions and to provide for them in accordance with modern systems of municipal management, but there has not been at any time a radical revision of the charter provisions, which fact attests the genius of the framers of the original act. The aldermen now as formerly are voted for at large, but are chosen one from each ward. The common councilmen are elected by wards. Originally the offices of city clerk and treasurer were filled by a single person, but in 1888 they were separated and an incumbent was elected for each.

Under the charter the board of aldermen, the common council and the joint body—the city council—have been clothed with ample power to provide for the selection of subordinate officers and for the maintenance of the several departments of city government; and the generally healthful and prosperous conditions which are so apparent on every hand are evidence that the "city fathers," and the people who elect them, have not been miserly in the distribution of the public funds. Still, there is nothing to indicate lavish or unwarranted expenditures, each board having a watchful eye upon the actions of the other, and the "negative" power occasionally has been exercised.

MUNICIPAL CIVIL LIST

Mayors—Caleb Rice, 1852-53; Philos B. Tyler, 1854; Eliphalet Trask, 1855; Ansel Phelps, jr., 1856-58; William B. Calhoun, 1859; Daniel L. Harris, 1860; Stephen C. Bemis, 1861-62; Henry Alexander, jr., 1863-64; Albert D. Briggs, 1865-67; Charles A. Winchester, 1868-69; William L. Smith, 1870-71; Samuel B. Spooner, 1872-73; John M. Stebbins, 1874; Emerson Wight, 1875-78; Lewis J. Powers, 1879-80; William H. Haile, 1881; Edwin W. Ladd, 1882; Henry M. Phillips, 1883-85; Edwin D. Metcalf,

1886; Elisha B. Maynard, 1887-88; Edward S. Bradford, 1889-91; Lawson Sibley, 1892; Edmund P. Kendrick, 1893-94; Charles L. Long, 1895; Newrie D. Winter, 1896; Henry S. Dickinson, 1897-98; Dwight O. Gilmore, 1899; William P. Hayes, 1900-1901.

City Clerks and Treasurers—Joseph Ingraham, 1852-59; Horace G. Lee, 1860-61; Samuel B. Spooner, 1862, resigned Sept. 30, and succeeded by Albert T. Folsom; Albert T. Folsom, 1863-87.

City Clerks—Elijah A. Newell, 1888-1901. (Still in office.)

City Treasurers—Eliphalet T. Tift, 1888-1901. (Still in office.)

1852.

Aldermen—Ward One, Samuel S. Day; Ward Two, Eliphalet Trask; Ward Three, E. D. Beach; Ward Four, George Dwight; Ward Five, Albert Morgan; Ward Six, Charles G. Rice; Ward Seven, Oliver B. Bannon; Ward Eight, F. A. Barton.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry Morris; Ward One, J. B. M. Stebbins, Eleazer Ripley, John V. Jones; Ward Two, W. C. Sturtevant, Francis Bates, Henry Fuller, jr.; Ward Three, Charles Merriam, Willis Phelps, Cicero Simons; Ward Four, Henry Morris, Alexander H. Avery, Benjamin F. Warner; Ward Five, William Hitchcock, Hiram Q. Sanderson, Nathaniel Cate; Ward Six, Henry Adams; Ward Seven, Ezra Kimberly; Ward Eight, Rodney Holt.

Clerk—Alanson Hawley.

1853.

Aldermen—Ward One, John B. Stebbins; Ward Two, Eliphalet Trask; Ward Three, Willis Phelps; Ward Four, Henry Vose; Ward Five, Titus Amadon; Ward Six, Drayton Perkins; Ward Seven, Joseph N. Sollace; Ward Eight, Harvey Foster.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry Morris (resigned May 16), William Stowe; Ward One, Daniel Hitchcock, William Pynchon, Addison Day; Ward Two, Joseph C. Pynchon, Orrin Baker, E. W. Bond; Ward Three, Lombard Dale, T. M. Walker, William Stowe; Ward Four, Henry Morris, Alexander H. Avery,

Edmund Palmer; Ward Five, Nathaniel Cate, William Dickinson, Daniel Collins; Ward Six, Henry Adams; Ward Seven, Ezra Kimberly; Ward Eight, William S. Barker.

Clerk—Alanson Hawley (resigned March 7), Samuel O. Gay.

1854.

Aldermen—Ward One, Wilson Eddy; Ward Two, Eliphalet Trask; Ward Three, Elkanah Barton; Ward Four, William L. Washburn; Ward Five, Edward F. Moseley; Ward Six, Roderick Lombard; Ward Seven, Joseph Lombard; Ward Eight, Rodney Holt.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, Samuel S. Day; Ward One, Asa Clark, Samuel S. Day, Thomas W. Wason; Ward Two, George H. Roberts, Henry A. Robinson, Roderick Ashley; Ward Three, Philo F. Wilcox, Lombard Dale, Frederick H. Harris; Ward Four, Daniel L. Harris, Tilly Haynes, Joseph B. Hopkins; Ward Five, Daniel Collins, G. W. Harrison, A. H. Clark; Ward Six, Edwin S. Hall; Ward Seven, Harris B. Johnson; Ward Eight, Horace Pease.

Clerk—Charles O. Chapin.

1855.

Alderman—Ward One, James M. Blanchard; Ward Two, W. C. Sturtevant; Ward Three, David Smith; Ward Four, Daniel Reynolds; Ward Five, William E. Montague; Ward Six, Henry Adams; Ward Seven, James P. Chapman; Ward Eight, Harvey Foster.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, John M. Stebbins; Ward One, E. B. Haskell, John M. Stebbins, Stephen Morse; Ward Two, O. W. Wilcox, John Hooker, 3d, D. H. Brigham; Ward Three, Francis S. Graves, Rufus Elmer, E. W. Dickinson; Ward Four, Abel B. Howe, John W. Hunt, Jeremiah R. Cadwell; Ward Five, Nathaniel Howard, S. S. Holmes, E. F. Moseley; Ward Six, J. G. Capron; Ward Seven, Luther S. Lewis; Ward Eight, Samuel Webber.

Clerk—Thomas Chubbuck.

1856.

Aldermen—Ward One, Samuel S. Day; Ward Two, Henry Fuller, jr.; Ward Three, Edmund Freeman; Ward Four, Stephen C. Bemis; Ward Five, Thomas H. Allen; Ward Six, Henry Alexander, jr.; Ward Seven, Henry Reynolds; Ward Eight, Samuel Webber.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, James Kirkham; Ward One, Charles O. Russell, Chauncey L. Covell, Hervey Hills;

The Hooker School, Springfield

Ward Two, O. W. Wilcox, Henry A. Chapin, Dexter H. Brigham; Ward Three, Dr. Nathan Adams, Charles L. Shaw, George Whitney; Ward Four, James Kirkham, George Walker, John W. Hunt; Ward Five, Otis A. Seamans, E. F. Moseley, Nelson Tyler; Ward Six, Elbridge Barton; Ward Seven, William Smith; Ward Eight, Milton Foster.

Clerk—Charles O. Chapin.

1857.

Aldermen—Ward One, Samuel S. Day; Ward Two, Henry Fuller, jr.; Ward Three, Henry Alexander, jr.; Ward Four, Ste-

phen C. Bemis; Ward Five, Joseph Hannis; Ward Six, James Warner; Ward Seven, Henry Pomroy; Ward Eight, Samuel Webber, jr.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, George Walker; Ward One, Charles O. Russell, Chauncey L. Covell, James Stebbins; Ward Two, Erastus Hayes, Lyman King, Francis B. Bacon; Ward Three, Marvin Lincoln, Henry Avery, John R. Hixon; Ward Four, George Walker, Samuel Leonard, William Birnie; Ward Five, Charles Woodman, Luther Upton, George A. Otis; Ward Six, Elbridge Barton; Ward Seven, William Smith; Ward Eight, George A. Cooley.

Clerk—Charles O. Chapin.

1858.

Aldermen—Ward One, Samuel S. Day; Ward Two, Henry Fuller, jr.; Ward Three, Henry Alexander, jr.; Ward Four, Stephen C. Bemis; Ward Five, Joseph Hannis; Ward Six, James Warner; Ward Seven, Henry Pomroy; Ward Eight, Samuel Webber, jr. (resigned), E. A. Fuller.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, John R. Hixon; Ward One, Wilson Eddy, William Pynchon, William L. Smith; Ward Two, Randolph E. Ladd, Ambrose N. Merrick, Charles B. Trask; Ward Three, John R. Hixon, Henry A. Chapin, Gurdon Bill; Ward Four, Samuel Leonard, John W. Hunt, R. G. Shumway; Ward Five, Charles Woodman, George Swetland, John Brooks; Ward Six, Elbridge Barton; Ward Seven, Joseph Wheelock, jr.; Ward Eight, Erastus King.

Clerk—Charles O. Chapin.

1859.

Aldermen—Ward One, Chauncey L. Covell; Ward Two, Roger S. Moore; Ward Three, Edmund Freeman; Ward Four, Daniel L. Harris; Ward Five, William Hitchcock; Ward Six, J. G. Capron; Ward Seven, Horace Smith; Ward Eight, George W. Holt.

Clerk—Joseph Ingraham.

Common Councilmen—President, A. N. Merrick (resigned in May), Samuel Leonard; Ward One, Joshua M. Harrington,

Justin M. Cooley, John V. Jones; Ward Two, George H. Roberts, Lewis H. Taylor, Gurdon C. Judson; Ward Three, A. N. Merrick, Daniel Gay, Hosea C. Lombard; Ward Four, Samuel Leonard, Alfred Rowe, Reuben T. Safford; Ward Five, Theodore Bishop, Walter Maynard, Walter North; Ward Six, Isaac D. Gibbons; Ward Seven, Ransley Hall; Ward Eight, Warren L. Shaw.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1860.

Alderman—Ward One, Edmund B. Haskell; Ward Two, Erastus Hayes; Ward Three, Franklin Chamberlain; Ward Four, John W. Hunt; Ward Five, William Hitchcock; Ward Six, John G. Capron; Ward Seven, William Foster; Ward Eight, George W. Holt.

Clerk—Horace C. Lee.

Common Councilmen—President N. A. Leonard; Ward One, Joshua M. Harrington, H. S. Noyes, J. H. Demond; Ward Two, Lewis H. Taylor, George R. Townsley, Charles A. Winchester; Ward Three, William L. Wilcox, John Hamilton, Clark W. Bryan; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, William Birnie, Alfred Rowe; Ward Five, William Higley, A. F. Strong, Charles Woodman; Ward Six, Robert Crossett; Ward Seven, Orrin Lombard; Ward Eight, Andrew J. Plumer.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1861.

Aldermen—Ward One, Henry Gray; Ward Two, Ephraim W. Bond; Ward Three, H. N. Case; Ward Four, Nathaniel Howard; Ward Five, Charles Woodman; Ward Six, Amos Call; Ward Seven, William Smith; Ward Eight, A. J. Plumer.

Clerk—Horace C. Lee.

Common Councilmen—President, N. A. Leonard; Ward One, H. J. Chapin, J. M. Cooley, J. H. Demond; Ward Two, Lewis H. Taylor, D. H. Brigham, F. B. Bacon; Ward Three, William L. Wilcox, John Hamilton, James M. Skiff; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, John W. Bliss, Alfred Rowe; Ward Five, William Higley, Otis A. Seamans, A. W. Allen; Ward Six, Aaron

C. Barton; Ward Seven, Henry Reynolds; Ward Eight, H. E. Moseley.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1862.

Aldermen—Ward One, Henry Gray; Ward Two, E. W. Bond; Ward Three, H. N. Case; Ward Four, T. W. Wason; Ward Five, Horace Kibbe; Ward Six, Horace Smith; Ward Seven, William Smith; Ward Eight, H. S. Evans.

Clerk—S. B. Spooner, jr.

Common Councilmen—President, N. A. Leonard; Ward One, Horace J. Chapin, L. O. Hanson, L. J. Powers; Ward Two, Sylvester Day, Tim Henry, Eli H. Patch; Ward Three, James M. Skiff, J. E. Taylor, A. F. Jennings; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, Alfred Rowe, T. M. Walker; Ward Five, P. V. B. Havens, George K. Jacobs, George K. Charter; Ward Six, Aaron C. Barton; Ward Seven, Ezekiel Keith; Ward Eight, H. E. Moseley.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1863.

Aldermen—Ward One, Justin M. Cooley; Ward Two, William Patton; Ward Three, William K. Baker; Ward Four, Daniel L. Harris; Ward Five, William Bodurtha; Ward Six, Horace Smith; Ward Seven, Virgil Perkins; Ward Eight, Andrew J. Plumer.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, N. A. Leonard; Ward One, N. W. Talcott, George S. Haskell, Luther Clark; Ward Two, O. H. Greenleaf, G. R. Townsley, John West; Ward Three, Aaron G. Lord, James M. Skiff, Francis S. Graves; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, A. L. Soule, Henry S. Lee; Ward Five, Cheney Bigelow, George K. Charter (resigned), Charles Phelps, Orlando Chapin (resigned), William Collins; Ward Six, J. G. Chase; Ward Seven, C. P. L. Warner; Ward Eight, Hiram Warner.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1864.

Aldermen—Ward One, Norman W. Talcott; Ward Two, William Patton; Ward Three, Albert D. Briggs; Ward Four, Frederick H. Harris; Ward Five, Charles Barrows; Ward Six,

Warren H. Wilkinson; Ward Seven, Virgil Perkins; Ward Eight, Harvey E. Moseley.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, N. A. Leonard; Ward One, Henry S. Hyde, John Mulligan, Charles H. Allen; Ward Two, O. H. Greenleaf, G. R. Townsley, J. F. Tannatt; Ward Three, Charles A. Winchester, W. H. Smith, A. N. Merrick; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, A. L. Soule, Henry S. Lee; Ward Five, Charles Phelps, William Collins, S. W. Porter; Ward Six, L. H. Taylor; Ward Seven, Peter Valentine; Ward Eight, George Foster.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1865.

Aldermen—Ward One, Henry S. Hyde; Ward Two, George R. Townsley; Ward Three, Otis Childs; Ward Four, Frederick H. Harris; Ward Five, Charles Barrows; Ward Six, Warren H. Wilkinson; Ward Seven, Virgil Perkins; Ward Eight, Andrew J. Plumer.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, John Mulligan, W. H. Allis, H. S. Noyes; Ward Two, Gideon Wells, John Olmsted, J. F. Tannatt; Ward Three, William H. Smith, J. F. Tapley, H. N. Tinkham; Ward Four, N. A. Leonard, Henry S. Lee, S. J. Hall; Ward Five, Charles Phelps, S. W. Porter, J. Q. A. Sexton; Ward Six, Gustavus D. Tapley; Ward Seven, Rawson Hathaway; Ward Eight, George Foster.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1866.

Aldermen—Ward One, William Pynchon; Ward Two, D. H. Brigham; Ward Three, Tim Henry; Ward Four, F. H. Harris; Ward Five, G. W. Harrison; Ward Six, W. H. Wilkinson; Ward Seven, John G. Taylor (died), Rawson Hathaway; Ward Eight, John Severson.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, William L. Smith; Ward One, J. H. Demond, Warren Emerson, J. C. McIntosh; Ward Two, Gideon Wells, H. M. Morehouse, George Dwight, jr.; Ward

Three, H. N. Tinkham, William H. Smith, Joseph H. Damon; Ward Four, D. B. Wesson, William L. Smith, W. S. Marsh; Ward Five, Charles Phelps, S. W. Porter, Charles Chapman; Ward Six, Gustavus D. Tapley; Ward Seven, John M. Meggett; Ward Eight, Samuel Mills.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1867.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Mulligan; Ward Two, Tim Henry; Ward Three, H. N. Tinkham; Ward Four, F. H. Harris; Ward Five, Samuel W. Porter; Ward Six, Amos Call; Ward Seven, Rawson Hathaway; Ward Eight, John Severson.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, William L. Smith; Ward One, J. C. McIntosh, Warren Emerson, J. H. Demond; Ward Two, H. M. Morehouse, C. S. Hurlbut, L. A. Tifft; Ward Three, Charles Marsh, H. K. W. Dickinson, P. S. Bailey; Ward Four, W. L. Smith, W. S. Marsh, L. J. Powers; Ward Five, Charles Chapman, A. H. Clark, J. S. Brown; Ward Six, Charles A. Call; Ward Seven, E. W. Clark; Ward Eight, Samuel Mills.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1868.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Mulligan; Ward Two, Tim Henry; Ward Three, H. N. Tinkham; Ward Four, W. S. Marsh; Ward Five, Samuel W. Porter; Ward Six, Amos Call; Ward Seven, E. W. Clark; Ward Eight, Milo Chapin.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, Warren Emerson, Josiah Bumstead, Roswell Lee; Ward Two, O. H. Greenleaf, Charles R. Ladd, Lewis A. Tifft; Ward Three, E. H. Patch, A. J. McIntosh, William H. Smith; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee, E. G. Norton, M. A. Clyde; Ward Five, Cyrus E. Buckland, Alden Warner, William R. Purple; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, Charles Gage; Ward Eight, George Swetland.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1869.

Aldermen—Ward One, J. M. Cooley; Ward Two, George Dwight; Ward Three, William H. Smith; Ward Four, W. S.

Marsh; Ward Five, Joseph M. Hall; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, Charles Gage; Ward Eight, Charles J. Goodwin.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, George M. Atwater, Josiah Bumstead, John Olmsted; Ward Two, Charles R. Ladd, O. H. Greenleaf, C. C. Smith; Ward Three, A. J. McIntosh, E. H. Patch, J. H. Appleton; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee, E. G. Norton, L. J. Powers; Ward Five, Alden Warner, E. B. Haskell, W. P. Taylor; Ward Six, I. P. Dickinson; Ward Seven, William H. Pinney; Ward Eight, George Swetland.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1870.

Aldermen—Ward One, J. A. Rumrill; Ward Two, Eliphalet Trask; Ward Three, Dr. John Hooker; Ward Four, Willis Phelps; Ward Five, Joseph M. Hall; Ward Six, I. P. Dickinson; Ward Seven, William H. Pinney; Ward Eight, George Foster.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, Albert Holt, A. D. Day, C. B. Holbrook; Ward Two, George Dwight, jr., James S. Bourke, David Legro; Ward Three, James E. McIntire, George W. Tapley, George S. Lewis; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee, Gurdon Bill, S. R. Philips; Ward Five, Charles Phelps, William B. Miller, T. B. Wilson; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, John A. Hall; Ward Eight, Alfred S. Packard.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1871.

Aldermen—Ward One, Josiah Bumstead; Ward Two, Charles R. Ladd; Ward Three, Lawson Sibley; Ward Four, James M. Thompson; Ward Five, Richard F. Hawkins; Ward Six, Isaac P. Dickinson; Ward Seven, John A. Hall; Ward Eight, Noyes Bastow.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, Albert Holt, P. W. Brewster, F. J. Donahue; Ward Two, Milton Bradley, Tilly Haynes, R. Warren; Ward Three, B. C. English,

S. B. Spooner, N. C. Newell; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee, Henry M. Phillips, E. A. Perkins; Ward Five, T. B. Wilson, J. C. Perry, E. B. Maynard; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, J. W. Lull; Ward Eight, George Swetland.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1872.

Alderman—Ward Two, Charles R. Ladd; Ward Three, William H. Smith; Ward Four, Emerson Wight; Ward Five, Joseph M. Hall, R. F. Hawkins; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, William H. Pinney; Ward Eight, Noyes Barstow.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, M. P. Knowlton; Ward One, F. J. Donahue, L. H. Powers, N. W. Fisk; Ward Two, O. H. Greenleaf, George W. Ray, Henry F. Trask; Ward Three, N. C. Newell, Samuel Palmer, George M. Smith; Ward Four, E. A. Perkins, H. M. Phillips, V. N. Taylor; Ward Five, M. P. Knowlton, E. B. Maynard, P. H. M. Brooks; Ward Six, E. A. Newell; Ward Seven, J. W. Lull; Ward Eight, W. L. Converse.

Clerk—Lucius E. Ladd.

1873.

Aldermen—Ward One, H. S. Hyde; Ward Two, George W. Ray; Ward Three, E. H. Patch; Ward Four, Emerson Wight; Ward Five, R. F. Hawkins; Ward Six, George E. Howard; Ward Seven, L. A. Tifft; Ward Eight, Noyes Barstow.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, M. P. Knowlton; Ward One, Florence J. Donahue, Noyes W. Fisk, Albert Holt; Ward Two, O. H. Greenleaf, H. F. Trask, S. C. Warriner; Ward Three, Joseph K. Newell, Charles M. Lee, Charles M. King; Ward Four, Varnum N. Taylor, E. A. Perkins, H. M. Phillips; Ward Five, M. P. Knowlton, J. D. McKnight, W. G. Chamberlain; Ward Six, E. A. Newell; Ward Seven, B. F. Farrar; Ward Eight, John Warriner.

Clerk—John A. Hall.

1874.

Alderman—Ward One, Albert Holt; Ward Two, Hugh Donnelly; Ward Three, A. J. McIntosh; Ward Four, L. J.

Powers; Ward Five, Albert W. Allen; Ward Six, I. P. Dickinson; Ward Seven, J. W. Lull, Ward Eight, Henry C. Fuller.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, T. B. Wilson; Ward One, D. J. Curtis, Horace Wheeler, James A. Byrnes; Ward Two, L. B. Lillie, M. L. Tourtellotte, P. J. Ryan; Ward Three, B. S. Haskins, Charles A. King, August Sheppert; Ward Four, J. H. Appleton, Homer Foot, jr., D. J. Marsh; Ward Five, W. G. Chamberlain, T. B. Wilson, Benjamin Hannis; Ward Six, Daniel Schoonmaker; Ward Seven, E. W. Ladd; Ward Eight, John Warriner.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1875.

Aldermen—Ward One, Hinsdale Smith; Ward Two, D. H. Brigham; Ward Three, F. H. Fuller; Ward Four, L. J. Powers; Ward Five, W. G. Chamberlain; Ward Six, Amos Call; Ward Seven, Rawson Hathaway; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry S. Lee; Ward One, Horace Wheeler, James A. Byrnes, N. W. Fisk; Ward Two, S. E. Seymour, H. F. Trask, M. L. Tourtellotte; Ward Three, J. K. Newell, A. J. Plumer, J. K. Winter; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee, D. L. Harris, J. S. Carr; Ward Five, B. S. Haskins, Benjamin Hannis, E. S. Stacy; Ward Six, Daniel Schoonmaker; Ward Seven, E. P. Cook; Ward Eight, D. P. Woolson.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1876.

Aldermen—Ward One, N. W. Talcott; Ward Two, George Dwight; Ward Three, J. K. Newell; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee; Ward Five, N. I. Hawley; Ward Six, D. L. Swan; Ward Seven, Rawson Hathaway; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

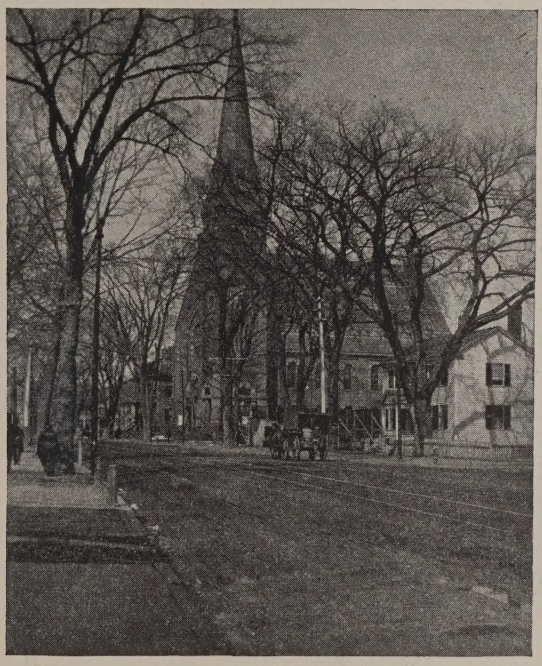
Common Councilmen—President, H. F. Trask; Ward One, John Mulligan, J. M. Cooley, J. J. Moore; Ward Two, Milton Bradley, H. F. Trask, M. L. Tourtellotte; Ward Three, H. N. Tinkham, J. F. Tapley, Elijah Nichols; Ward Four, W. S. Shurtleff, D. L. Harris, J. S. Carr; Ward Five, H. W. Phelps, Edwin

McElwain, E. S. Stacy; Ward Six, R. R. McGregor; Ward Seven, Larkin Newell; Ward Eight, Samuel F. Smith.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1877.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Olmsted; Ward Two, George Dwight; Ward Three, J. F. Tapley; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee; Ward Five, N. I. Hawley (resigned), Benj. Hannis; Ward Six,



Grace M. E. Church, Springfield

D. L. Swan; Ward Seven, W. H. Pinney; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, H. F. Trask; Ward One, John Mulligan, N. W. Fisk, L. H. Powers; Ward Two, H. F. Trask, M. L. Tourtellotte, George E. Frink; Ward Three, H. N. Tinkham, Elijah Nichols, George B. Smith; Ward Four, Daniel

L. Harris, William S. Shurtleff, J. K. Newell; Ward Five, Edwin McElwain, John A. Hall, A. J. Wright; Ward Six, H. C. Puffer; Ward Seven, E. W. Ladd; Ward Eight, Milo Chapin.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1878.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Olmsted; Ward Two, George Dwight; Ward Three, J. F. Tapley; Ward Four, Henry S. Lee; Ward Five, John A. Hall; Ward Six, D. L. Swan; Ward Seven, W. H. Pinney; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, A. J. Wright; Ward One, John Mulligan, L. H. Powers, E. Belding; Ward Two, Dr. H. G. Stickney, Dr. A. R. Rice, E. M. Bartlett; Ward Three, Elijah Nichols, George B. Smith, J. R. Smith; Ward Four, W. S. Shurtleff, J. K. Newell, H. A. Gould; Ward Five, A. J. Wright, N. W. Howard, S. L. Hodgdon; Ward Six, George R. Dickinson; Ward Seven, Edwin W. Ladd; Ward Eight, F. M. Bardwell.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1879.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Olmsted; Ward Two, George Dwight; Ward Three, J. F. Tapley; Ward Four, George W. Tapley; Ward Five, Benjamin Hannis; Ward Six, George R. Dickinson; Ward Seven, E. W. Ladd; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, J. R. Smith; Ward One, John Mulligan, E. Belding, J. W. Baldwin; Ward Two, E. H. Phelps, Horace Jacobs, F. A. Judd; Ward Three, J. R. Smith, Elijah Nichols, Frank E. Winter; Ward Four, Henry A. Gould, George B. Holbrook, C. J. Sanderson; Ward Five, N. W. Howard, S. L. Hodgdon, M. J. Chamberlain; Ward Six, E. M. Lombard; Ward Seven, Charles Taylor; Ward Eight, F. M. Bardwell.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1880.

Aldermen—Ward One, John Olmsted; Ward Two, S. C. Warriner; Ward Three, J. F. Tapley; Ward Four, George W.

Tapley; Ward Five, Benjamin Hannis; Ward Six, George R. Dickinson; Ward Seven, E. W. Ladd; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Elijah Belding; Ward One, E. Belding, Ethan C. Robinson, Harlan P. Stone; Ward Two, Fred A. Judd, E. H. Young, E. M. Bartlett; Ward Three, Elijah Nichols, Frank E. Winter, Emory Meekins, Ward Four, George B. Holbrook, Charles J. Sanderson, William H. Haile; Ward Five, Nathaniel W. Howard, Sewall L. Hodgdon, James D. Gill; Ward Six, Edward M. Lombard; Ward Seven, Charles Taylor; Ward Eight, Frank M. Bardwell.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1881.

Aldermen—Ward One, Elijah Belding; Ward Two, Stephen E. Seymour; Ward Three, Elijah Nichols; Ward Four, Edward P. Chapin; Ward Five, Oscar D. Adams; Ward Six, Edward M. Lombard; Ward Seven, George Nye; Ward Eight, H. K. Wight.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Charles J. Sanderson; Ward One, Harlan P. Stone, Hoyt E. Howard, Henry J. Beebe; Ward Two, Fred A. Judd, Edwin M. Bartlett, John Lobsitz; Ward Three, George P. Stebbins, Jacob C. Lutz, Simpson Clark; Ward Four, Charles J. Sanderson, William B. Walker, Edmund P. Kendrick; Ward Five, James D. Gill, Henry Dana, James F. Brierly; Ward Six, Albert E. Foth; Ward Seven, William C. Bemis; Ward Eight, George Foster.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1882.

Aldermen—Ward One, Henry D. Carroll; Ward Two, Stephen E. Seymour; Ward Three, Elijah Nichols; Ward Four, Edward P. Chapin; Ward Five, Oscar D. Adams; Ward Six, Edward M. Lombard; Ward Seven, George Nye; Ward Eight, Davenport L. Fuller.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Edmund P. Kendrick; Ward One, Harlan P. Stone, Henry J. Beebe, Ethan C. Robin-

son; Ward Two, Fred A. Judd, Frank M. Bugbee, Frank E. Carpenter; Ward Three, Simpson Clark, Jacob C. Lutz, James D. Parsons; Ward Four, Edmund P. Kendrick, James C. Alden, Edward C. Rogers; Ward Five, Henry Dana, Charles E. Dodge, Charles Fuller; Ward Six, George McGregory; Ward Seven, John S. Sanderson; Ward Eight, Edward D. Chapman.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1883.

Aldermen—Ward One, Harlan P. Stone; Ward Two, Fred A. Judd; Ward Three, James Kirkham; Ward Four, James C. Alden; Ward Five, James D. Gill; Ward Six, Charles A. Call; Ward Seven, George Nye; Ward Seven, John S. Sanderson.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, E. P. Kendrick; Ward One, Charles McKay, J. F. Callanan, John L. Knight; Ward Two, Frank E. Carpenter, Frank M. Bugbee, James A. Bill, jr.; Ward Three, Jacob C. Lutz, Simpson Clark, W. F. Cook; Ward Four, Edmund P. Kendrick, Edward C. Rogers, Thomas D. Lyon; Ward Five, George H. Wells, James Kimball, Whiteman T. Steere; Ward Six, Oscar S. Greenleaf; Ward Seven, George W. Hall; Ward Eight, John Rivers.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1884.

Aldermen—Ward Two, Andrew Y. Beach; Ward Three, Jacob C. Lutz; Ward Four, George W. Tapley; Ward Five, Henry M. Brewster; Ward Six, Charles A. Call; Ward Seven, George Nye, John S. Sanderson; Ward Eight, Davenport L. Fuller.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Edward C. Rogers; Ward One, Henry L. Whitcomb, John L. Knight, Patrick C. O'Connor; Ward Two, Hosea C. Lombard, James A. Bill, jr., James N. Dodge; Ward Three, Simpson Clark, George F. Clark, James S. Adams; Ward Four, Edward C. Rogers, Charles L. Long, Thomas D. Lyon; Ward Five, George H. Wells, James Kimball, J. H. Hendrick; Ward Six, Oscar S. Greenleaf; Ward Seven, George W. Hall; Ward Eight, John Rivers.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1885.

Aldermen—Ward One, John L. Knight; Ward Two, Andrew Y. Beach; Ward Three, Jacob C. Lutz; Ward Four, Daniel P. Crocker; Ward Five, Charles Taylor; Ward Six, Charles A. Call; Ward Seven, John S. Sanderson; Ward Eight, George W. Miller.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Charles L. Long; Ward One, George E. Frink, James F. Bidwell, Henry M. Castle; Ward Two, James A. Bill, jr., Hosea C. Lombard, Edwin F. Lyford; Ward Three, Edgar C. Whittemore, Richard D. Whitney, John H. Clune; Ward Four, Henry H. Bowman, Charles L. Long, Alfred N. Mayo; Ward Five, George H. Wells, Joel H. Hendrick, James Kimball; Ward Six, Oscar S. Greenleaf; Ward Seven, Richard W. Pinney; Ward Eight, Horatio E. D. Green.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1886.

Aldermen—President, Andrew Y. Beach; Ward One, James F. Bidwell; Ward Two, Andrew Y. Beach; Ward Three, George B. Holbrook; Ward Four, George W. Tapley; Ward Five, Joel H. Hendrick; Ward Six, Walter H. Wesson; Ward Seven, Richard W. Pinney; Ward Eight, George W. Miller.

Clerk—A. T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Charles L. Long; Ward One, George E. Frink, Charles A. Fisk, R. Hale Smith; Ward Two, James A. Bill, jr., Edwin F. Lyford, Samuel J. Whyte; Ward Three, John H. Clune, Claudius C. Margerum, William F. Callender; Ward Four, Charles L. Long, Henry H. Bowman, Alfred N. Mayo; Ward Five, Thomas S. Stewart, Edward S. Bradford, Marcus M. Kendall; Ward Six, William L. Dickinson; Ward Seven, George W. Hall; Ward Eight, Horatio E. D. Green.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1887.

Alderman—President, James F. Bidwell; Ward One, James F. Bidwell; Ward Two, Frank M. Bugbee; Ward Three, William F. Callender; Ward Four, William H. Wright; Ward Five,

Sherman D. Porter; Ward Six, William L. Dickinson; Ward Seven, Richard W. Pinney; Ward Eight, John Rivers.

Clerk—Albert T. Folsom.

Common Councilmen—President, Henry H. Bowman; Ward One, Frederick H. Stebbins, John Dollan, Frank C. Leonard; Ward Two, Frank S. Crane, James A. Bill, jr., Newrie D. Winter; Ward Three, Claudius C. Margerum, James E. Dunleavy, Howard N. Newell; Ward Four, Henry H. Bowman, William W. More, Charles E. Brown; Ward Five, Edward S. Bradford, Marcus M. Kendall, William C. Newell; Ward Six, Edward J. Flannery; Ward Seven, Landomer E. Pease; Ward Eight, James H. Morley.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

1888.

Aldermen—President, Frank M. Bugbee; Ward One, John C. McIntosh; Ward Two, Frank M. Bugbee; Ward Three, Lawson Sibley; Ward Four, William H. Wright; Ward Five, Sherman D. Porter; Ward Six, William L. Dickinson; Ward Seven, Richard W. Pinney; Ward Eight, John Rivers.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Newrie D. Winter; Ward One, Frederick H. Stebbins, Frank C. Leonard, George W. Turner; Ward Two, Newrie D. Winter, Charles C. Parkhurst, Edward F. Tower; Ward Three, James E. Dunleavy, Frederick S. Newman, Leonard Schadt; Ward Four, William W. More, Charles E. Brown, George Leonard; Ward Five, Edward S. Bradford, Marcus M. Kendall, James W. Anderson; Ward Six, Edward J. Flannery; Ward Seven, Charles E. Ladd; Ward Eight, E. A. Grise.

Clerk—Tom Fitzgibbon.

1889.

Aldermen—President, John C. McIntosh; Ward One, John C. McIntosh; Ward Two, Charles C. Parkhurst; Ward Three, Herbert C. Puffer; Ward Four, John A. Murphy; Ward Five, John McFethries; Ward Six, Henry S. Dickinson; Ward Seven, George W. Hall; Ward Eight, Orson Moulton.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, George Leonard; Ward One, George W. Turner, Leroy Z Cutler, William F. Ray; Ward Two, Waldo R. Forester, Francke W. Dickinson, Dr. George E. Foster; Ward Three, Leonard Schadt, Jacob G. Lutz, John P. Casman; Ward Four, William W. More, George Leonard, Charles Van Vlack; Ward Five, Milan W. Bull, Ruel R. Nickerson, Thomas H. Benton; Ward Six, Cornelius W. Phillips; Ward Seven, Charles E. Ladd; Ward Eight, Loren W. King.

Clerk—Andrew O. McGarrett.

1890.

Aldermen—President, Henry S. Dickinson; Ward One, George W. Turner; Ward Two, Charles C. Parkhurst; Ward Three, George B. Holbrook; Ward Four, John A. Murphy; Ward Five, Edmund P. Kendrick; Ward Six, Henry S. Dickinson; Ward Seven, George W. Hall; Ward Eight, Orrin E. Tilley.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, George Leonard; Ward One, Leroy Z. Cutler, William F. Ray, Louis C. Hyde; Ward Two, Francke W. Dickinson, George D. Fisk, John B. King; Ward Three, John P. Casman, Arthur A. Couch, George J. Seuss; Ward Four, George Leonard, Charles Van Vlack, Frederick H. Gillett; Ward Five, Milan W. Bull, George H. Clark, George H. Kemater; Ward Six, Cornelius W. Phillips; Ward Seven, Benjamin C. Harvey; Ward Eight, Charles E. Jennings.

Clerk—Andrew O. McGarrett.

1891.

Aldermen—President, John A. Murphy; Ward One, Louis C. Hyde; Ward Two, Charles C. Parkhurst; Ward Three, George B. Holbrook; Ward Four, John A. Murphy; Ward Five, Edward H. Lathrop; Ward Six, Frederick Harris; Ward Seven, Benjamin C. Harvey; Ward Eight, Orrin E. Tilley.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Francke W. Dickinson; Ward One, Henry E. Marsh, John McDonald, Charles H. Mulligan; Ward Two, Francke W. Dickinson, John B. King, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Three, George J. Seuss, Charles W. Turk,

Jeremiah F. Mahoney; Ward Four, Charles Van Vlack, W. F. Adams, James D. Norton; Ward Five, Milan W. Bull, George H. Clark, George H. Kemater; Ward Six, George M. Stebbins; Ward Seven, Thomas A. Holland; Ward Eight, Charles E. Jennings.

Clerk—Andrew O. McGarrett.

1892.

Aldermen—President, Frederick Harris; Ward One, Louis C. Hyde; Ward Two, Frank E. Carpenter; Ward Three, Claudius C. Margerum; Ward Four, Charles M. Mather; Ward Five, Samuel D. Sherwood; Ward Six, Frederick Harris; Ward Seven, Benjamin C. Harvey; Ward Eight, Leonard B. Richardson.

Clerk—Elijah A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, James D. Norton; Ward One, William P. Hayes, Charles H. Mulligan, Henry W. Sexton; Ward Two, Edwin A. Carter, Dwight O. Gilmore, James J. Sullivan; Ward Three, George J. Seuss, Jeremiah F. Mahoney, John Sharrocks; Ward Four, W. F. Adams, James D. Norton, Charles E. Stickney; Ward Five, William M. Gray, William A. Harris, Stillman L. Tuttle; Ward Six, George M. Stebbins; Ward Seven, Thomas A. Holland; Ward Eight, Henry A. Braman.

Clerk—Andrew O. McGarrett (resigned)—Wm. E. Gilbert.

1893.

Aldermen—President, George Nye; Ward One, Olin H. Smith; Ward Two, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Three, Claudius C. Margerum; Ward Four, Henry H. Bowman; Ward Five, George Nye; Ward Six, Nathan D. Bill; Ward Seven, Benjamin C. Harvey; Ward Eight, Leonard B. Richardson.

Clerk—Elijah A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, James D. Norton; Ward One, William P. Hayes, Charles H. Mulligan, Winford N. Caldwell; Ward Two, Walter G. Morse, Charles W. Perkins, George B. Rathbun; Ward Three, Harry P. Elsey, George F. Sessions, Charles Workheiser; Ward Four, W. F. Adams, James D. Norton, Charles E. Stickney; Ward Five, William A. Harris, Edwin

S. Field, Frederick B. Miller; Ward Six, Eugene Young; Ward Seven, William H. Gage; Ward Eight, Merrill E. Streeter.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1894.

Aldermen—President, Henry H. Bowman; Ward One, Olin H. Smith; Ward Two, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Three, Gustave Remkus; Ward Four, Henry H. Bowman; Ward Five, George A. Russell; Ward Six, Claudius C. Margerum; Ward Seven, Daniel W. Ware; Ward Eight, Merrill E. Streeter.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, George F. Sessions; Ward One, William C. Hayes, Charles L. Burr, George F. Fuller; Ward Two, Maurice P. Cavanaugh, Charles W. Perkins, Frank H. Elwell; Ward Three, Harry P. Elsey, George F. Sessions, Robert A. Grant; Ward Four, Howard A. Gibbs, Robert A. Knight, Paul R. Hawkins; Ward Five, Edwin S. Field, Frederick B. Miller, Fred C. Wright; Ward Six, Edward C. Hamilton; Ward Seven, William S. Bemis; Ward Eight, Philip C. Sullivan.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1895.

Aldermen—President, George A. Russell; Ward One, George F. Fuller; Ward Two, Albert E. Foth; Ward Three, Gustave Remkus; Ward Four, Henry L. Gaylord; Ward Five, George A. Russell; Ward Six, Walter P. Goodenough; Ward Seven, Daniel W. Ware; Ward Eight, Merrill E. Streeter.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Robert A. Knight; Ward One, Charles L. Burr, Lewis D. Robinson, Willard F. Tripp; Ward Two, Maurice P. Cavanaugh, Frank H. Elwell, Charles D. Rathbun; Ward Three, Adin W. Bangs, Robert A. Grant, George W. D. Upton; Ward Four, Howard A. Gibbs, Paul R. Hawkins, Robert A. Knight; Ward Five, Albert P. Casey, Augustus A. Howard, Frederick B. Miller; Ward Six, Edward C. Hamilton; Ward Seven, Charles E. Ladd; Ward Eight, John R. Reed.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1896.

Aldermen—President, Henry S. Dickinson; Ward One, Charles L. Burr; Ward Two, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Three, George J. Seuss; Ward Four, Henry S. Dickinson; Ward Five, Charles H. Parsons; Ward Six, Charles Rogers; Ward Seven, Charles E. Ladd; Ward Eight, Octave A. La Riviere.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Maurice P. Cavanaugh; Ward One, Frank H. Bills, William J. McCann, Willard F. Tripp; Ward Two, Maurice P. Cavanaugh, Harry C. Collins, Charles T. Winchester; Ward Three, Henry D. Marsh, Frank D. Quilty, George W. D. Upton; Ward Four, Ralph W. Ellis, Zera W. Smith, Fred H. Sturtevant; Ward Five, Frank W. Barker, Augustus A. Howard, Edward R. Lee; Ward Six, Frank D. Kemp; Ward Seven, William W. Bartlett; Ward Eight, Charles O. Churchill.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1897.

Aldermen—President, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward One, Willard F. Tripp; Ward Two, Charles H. Mulligan; Ward Three, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Four, Ralph W. Ellis; Ward Five, Charles C. Lewis; Ward Six, Edward C. Hamilton; Ward Seven, Charles E. Brown; Ward Eight, Homer D. Packard.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Frank W. Barker; Ward One, Orville A. Dodge, Lewis D. Robinson; Ward Two, Luke J. Coogan, Henry D. Shaw, Harry J. Vesper; Ward Three, Charles H. Dunham, Frank H. Elwell; Ward Four, Lewis F. Carr, Charles E. Newell; Ward Five, Frank W. Barker, Stanford L. Haynes; Ward Six, Fred A. Bearse, Dennis Casey, jr.; Ward Seven, George A. Bacon, William W. Bartlett; Ward Eight, Charles O. Churchill, Alexander C. Methven, Fordis C. Parker.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1898.

Aldermen—President, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward One, Lewis D. Robinson; Ward Two, Charles H. Mulligan; Ward Three, Dwight O. Gilmore; Ward Four, Ralph W. Ellis; Ward Five,

Charles C. Lewis; Ward Six, Edward C. Hamilton; Ward Seven, Charles E. Brown; Ward Eight, Homer D. Packard.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Fordis C. Parker; Ward One, Orville A. Dodge, Franklin A. Latimer, jr.; Ward Two, Luke J. Coogan, Matthew R. Mansfield, William A. Strange; Ward Three, Edward T. Davis, Harry H. Parkhurst; Ward Four, Lewis F. Carr, Charles E. Newell; Ward Five, Fordis C. Parker, Stanford L. Haynes; Ward Six, Fred A. Bearse, Samuel Jones; Ward Seven, George A. Bacon, Seth J. Buckland; Ward Eight, Albert E. W. Drake, Alexander C. Methven, William F. Mundell.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1899.

Aldermen—President, Charles H. Mulligan; Ward One, Franklin A. Latimer, jr.; Ward Two, Charles H. Mulligan; Ward Three, Frank H. Elwell; Ward Four, Edwin A. Blodgett; Ward Five, Fordis C. Parker; Ward Six, Fred A. Bearse; Ward Seven, Julius F. Carman; Ward Eight, Alexander C. Methven.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Fred O. Clapp; Ward One, Fred O. Clapp, Edwin B. Woodin; Ward Two, Luke J. Coogan, Patrick J. McCarty, Patrick J. Mitchell; Ward Three, Gottlieb Baer, George W. D. Upton; Ward Four, Lincoln C. Haynes, William W. Tapley; Ward Five, Theodore F. Dwight, Charles A. Wright; Ward Six, Frederick S. Ladd, George Smith; Ward Seven, Albert G. Bennett, jr., Seth J. Buckland; Ward Eight, Albert E. W. Drake, William F. Mundell, Woodward E. Murkland.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert.

1900.

Aldermen—President, Edwin A. Blodgett; Ward One, Fred O. Clapp; Ward Two, Henry W. Fitch; Ward Three, Frank H. Elwell; Ward Four, Edwin A. Blodgett; Ward Five, Fordis C. Parker; Ward Six, Fred A. Bearse; Ward Seven, Julius F. Carman; Ward Eight, Alexander C. Methven.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Albert G. Bennett, jr.; Ward One, Clifford P. Kibbe, William E. Sanderson; Ward Two, Patrick J. Mitchell, James E. Dunn, John M. Sullivan; Ward Three, George W. D. Upton, Napoleon L. Byron; Ward Four, William W. Tapley; F. Winthrop Edwards; Ward Five, Theodore F. Dwight, George Nye, jr.; Ward Six, George Smith, Eugene M. Tinkham; Ward Seven, Albert G. Bennett, jr., William A. Newton; Ward Eight, William F. Mundell, Oliver E. Hines, Everett E. Stone.

Clerk—William E. Gilbert (resigned), H. S. Gilbert.

1901.

Aldermen—President, Fred O. Clapp; Ward One, Fred O. Clapp; Ward Two, Henry W. Fitch; Ward Three, Henry D. Marsh; Ward Four, William W. Tapley; Ward Five, Henry H. Bosworth; Ward Six, Frank D. Kemp; Ward Seven, Albert G. Bennett, jr.; Ward Eight, Edward J. Murphy.

Clerk—E. A. Newell.

Common Councilmen—President, Everett E. Stone; Ward One, Clifford P. Kibbe, William E. Sanderson; Ward Two, Patrick J. Mitchell, James E. Dunn, Patrick J. Delaney; Ward Three, George H. McClean, William W. Warren; Ward Four, F. Winthrop Edwards, Henry P. Norris; Ward Five, George Nye, jr., Calvin S. Whitcomb; Ward Six, Eugene M. Tinkham, John J. Hamilton; Ward Seven, William A. Newton, Henry G. Chapin; Ward Eight, Oliver E. Hines, Everett E. Stone, William T. Webster.

Clerk—H. S. Gilbert.

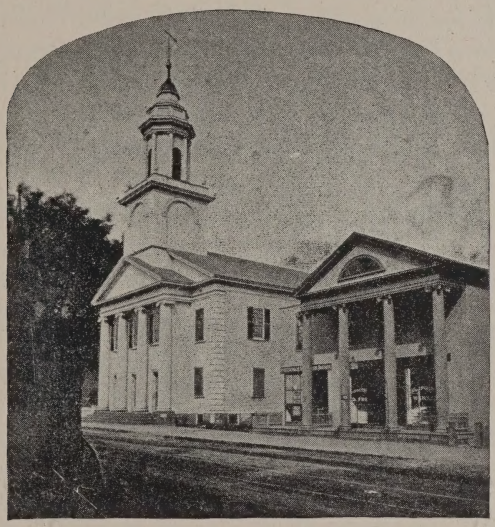
Presidents of Common Council—Henry Morris, 1852-53, resigned May 16, 1853, and William Stowe chosen; Samuel S. Day, 1854; John M. Stebbins, 1855; James Kirkham, 1856; George Walker, 1857; John R. Hixon, 1858; A. N. Merrick, 1859; Nehemiah A. Leonard, 1860-64; Henry S. Lee, 1865; William L. Smith, 1866-67; Henry S. Lee, 1868-71; Marcus P. Knowlton, 1872-73; T. B. Wilson, 1874; Henry S. Lee, 1875; H. F. Trask, 1876-77; A. J. Wright, 1878; J. R. Smith, 1879; Elijah Belding, 1880; Charles J. Sanderson, 1881; Edmund P. Kendrick, 1882-83; Edward C. Rogers, 1884; Charles L. Long, 1885-86; Henry

H. Bowman, 1887; Newrie D. Winter, 1888; George Leonard, 1889-90; Francke W. Dickinson, 1891; James D. Norton, 1892-93; George F. Sessions, 1894; Robert A. Knight, 1895; Maurice P. Cavanaugh, 1896; Frank W. Barker, 1897; Fordis C. Parker, 1898; Fred O. Clapp, 1899; Albert G. Bennett, jr., 1900; Everett E. Stone, 1901.

Assessors.

1852—John B. Kirkham, Harvey Chapin, E. A. Morris.

1853—E. A. Morris, Samuel McNary, Roderick Ashley.



Old Unitarian Church, Springfield

1854—E. A. Morris, Harvey Danks, Horace Kibbe.

1855—Walter H. Bowdoin, Robert Crossett, John B. Kirkham.

1856—Edward A. Morris, John B. Kirkham, Roderick Ashley.

1857—J. B. M. Stebbins, Roderick Ashley, Henry Smith.

1858-59—Henry Smith, Horace Ashley, Horace C. Lee.

1860—Henry Smith, Francis Norton, David A. Adams.

1861—Roderick Ashley, Francis Norton, David A. Adams.

1862—Francis Norton, David A. Adams, Otis Childs.

1863—Henry Smith, W. C. Sturtevant, Francis Norton.
1864—Titus Amadon, H. S. Noyes, Edwin Booth.
1865—Francis Norton, W. C. Sturtevant, Titus Amadon.
1866—Francis Norton, H. S. Noyes, Titus Amadon.
1867—Francis Norton, H. S. Noyes, G. D. Tapley.
1868—Francis Norton, Otis Childs, E. B. Haskell.
1869-70—Francis Norton, D. A. Adams, J. G. Capron.
1871—D. A. Adams, J. G. Capron, T. M. Dewey.
1872—D. A. Adams, J. G. Capron, George Dillingham.
1873-76—Francis Norton, J. G. Capron, H. G. Shaw.
1877-81—Francis Norton, J. G. Capron, George S. Lewis.
1882-83—Francis Norton, J. G. Capron, Albert H. Kirkham.
1884—J. G. Capron, Albert H. Kirkham.
1885-88—Albert H. Kirkham, George B. Smith, John J. Leonard.
1889-94—George B. Smith, John J. Leonard, Marcus Houghton.
1895-1901—George B. Smith, John J. Leonard, Frank S. Crane.

Overseers of the Poor.[1]

1852—Elijah Blake, Edwin Booth, William Pynchon.
1853—Elijah Blake, Edwin Booth, Tyler Childs.
1854—J. C. Stebbins, Edwin Booth, S. C. Bemis.
1855—Elijah Blake, Henry Collins, Tyler Childs.
1856—Elijah Blake, Henry Gray, Edward Savage.
1857-58—Elijah Blake, Henry Gray, R. T. Safford.
1859—Elijah Blake, Henry Gray, G. W. Harrison.
1860—W. C. Sturtevant, Tyler Childs, Edwin Booth.
1861—H. S. Noyes, Marvin Chapin, Edwin Booth.
1862—Marvin Chapin, George C. Fisk, Edwin Booth.
1863-64—David A. Adams, Marvin Chapin, Luke H. Pease.
1865—Marvin Chapin, Luke H. Pease, Edwin Booth.
1866—Luke H. Pease, Thomas H. Allen, Titus Amadon.
1867—Luke H. Pease, Thomas H. Allen, H. S. Noyes.
1868—J. H. Demond, Thomas H. Allen, Luke H. Pease.
1869—Luke H. Pease, David A. Adams, D. J. Bartlett.

[1]The mayor is an ex-officio member of this board.

1870—D. A. Adams, Tyler Childs Josiah Bumstead.

1871—D. A. Adams, J. H. Demond, D. J. Bartlett.

1872—D. A. Adams, D. J. Bartlett, C. C. Smith.

1873—D. J. Bartlett, C. C. Smith, Varnum N. Taylor 2d.

1874-76—D. J. Barlett, C. C. Smith, James Burke.

1877—D. J. Bartlett, C. C. Smith, C. L. Covell.

1878—D. J. Bartlett, C. L. Covell, James H. Lewis.

1879-80—C. L. Covell, James H. Lewis, J. Q. A. Sexton, Dr. David Clark.

1881—C. L. Covell, James H. Lewis, J. Q. A. Sexton, Dr. David Clark.

1882—C. L. Covell, James H. Lewis, F. A. Burt, Dr. A. R. Rice.

1883—James H. Lewis, F. A. Burt, Dr. A. R. Rice, C. C. Smith.

1884—F. A. Burt, Dr. A. R. Rice, C. C. Smith, James F. Brierly.

1885-87—Dr. A. R. Rice, C. C. Smith, James F. Brierly, Dr. C. C. Chaffee.

1888—Dr. A. R. Rice, C. C. Smith, James F. Brierly, C. C. Merritt.

1889-91—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Smith, James F. Brierly, C. C. Merritt.

1892-94—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Parkhurst, James F. Brierly, C. C. Merritt.

1895—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Smith, James F. Brierly, C. C. Merritt.

1896—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Smith, Edward A. Hall, C. C. Merritt.

1897-98—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Smith, Edward A. Hall, James H. Lewis.

1899-1900—Dr. Walter H. Chapin, C. C. Smith, Edwin S. Stacy, James H. Lewis.

1901—Dr. Simeon J. Russell, C. C. Smith, Edwin S. Stacy, Charles C. Lewis.

City Physicians—R. G. W. English, 1855; A. S. M'Clean, 1856-59; J. M. Foster, 1860-61; William G. Breck, 1862; J. M.

Foster, 1863; H. G. Stickney, 1864-67; George S. Stebbins, 1868; H. G. Stickney, 1869; A. R. Rice, 1870; Charles P. Kemp, 1871; Sarah J. Williams, 1872; P. LeB. Stickney, 1873; A. R. Rice, 1874; John Hooker, 1875; David Clark, 1876-81; A. R. Rice, 1882-88; Walter H. Chapin, 1889-1900; Simeon J. Russell, 1901.

City Engineers—J. R. Smith, 1864-67; William B. Harris, 1868-69; T. A. Curtis, 1870; Stockwell Bettes, 1871-73; George A. Ellis, 1874-86; Charles M. Slocum, 1887-1901.

Superintendents of Almshouse—Z. F. Chadwick, 1886-87; Lyman W. Sexton, 1888-1901.

City Solicitors—Edmund P. Kendrick, 1895; Edward H. Lathrop, 1896-99; William G. McKechnie, 1900-1901.

Superintendents of Streets—Harvey Chapin, 1857-58; Justin Sackett, 1859-67; John Q. A. Sexton, 1868-73; Michael Roane, 1874-75; Theodore Sprague, 1876; Henry D. Foss, 1877-88; William L. Dickinson, 1889-99; Arthur A. Adams, 1900-1901.

City Marshals—David A. Adams, 1852-53; Sylvester Churchill, 1854; L. P. Rowland, 1855; Sylvester Churchill, 1856; George Ensworth, 1857; Wells P. Hodgett, 1858; Otis Childs, 1859-60; A. W. Lamb, 1861; L. H. Pease, 1862; Henry Clark, 1863-64 (resigned); Luke H. Pease, 1864-70; John M. Meggett, 1871; Luke H. Pease, 1872-75; Hiram Q. Sanderson, 1876-77; E. C. Pettis, 1878; W. H. H. Blair, 1879-81; John L. Rice, 1882; Robert J. Hamilton, 1883-85; E. C. Pettis, 1886; John H. Clune, 1887-88; F. G. Southmayd, 1889-91; John L. Rice, 1892-94; Joel H. Hendrick, 1895; Alfred M. Copeland, 1896; Henry McDonald, 1897-1900; George M. Stebbins, 1901.

License Commissioners.

1896—George E. Frink, Frank E. Carpenter, George B. Holbrook.

1897—George E. Frink, William F. Cook, George B. Holbrook.

1898-99—William F. Cook, Geo. B. Holbrook, Robt. W. Day.

1900—William F. Cook, William C. Hayes, Robert W. Day.

1901—William F. Cook, William C. Hayes, Charles H. Beckwith.

City Messengers—H. D. Braman, 1852-53; Sylvester Churchill, 1854; L. P. Rowland, 1855; Wells P. Hodgett, 1856-58; John K. Gardner, 1859; Rodolphus Kinsley, 1860; John K. Gardner, 1861-62; Dwight Clark, 1863; J. D. Bigelow, 1864-81; George S. Warriner, 1882-98; Stephen P. Burns, 1899-1901.

CHAPTER V

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—EDUCATIONAL

From the time of planting the colony at Agawam, in 1636, to the beginning of the twentieth century the inhabitants of Springfield have given careful and generous consideration to the education of the youth of the town and subsequent city. In the days of the plantation the settled minister of the parish was looked upon as the schoolmaster and teaching the youth was almost as much a part of his duty as that of guarding the spiritual welfare of his flock. In 1641 the selectmen ordered that all the children of the settlement be taught to read and learn the catechism, and that with primer study and spelling and writing comprised the course of study available to the progeny of our earliest ancestors in Springfield. In 1667 a schoolmaster was employed, and received for his services three pence per week for each child who was taught reading, and four pence if writing was added. In 1668 the town hired one David Denton to teach the school, at a salary of 20 pounds per year, the school being kept in the tower of the meeting house. As the settlement increased it was customary to hire a room in the houses of several of the inhabitants, where rudimentary instruction was given by the good housewife to the children of the neighborhood. These were the "dame schools" of the period.

In 1679 a school house was built in "the lane going to the upper wharf," or in what now is Cypress street, between Main street and the river. Thomas Stebbins, jr., undertook the erec-

tion of the building, at the price of 14 pounds, but the records state that if it be found that the builder "have a hard bargain" he is to have 10 shillings more from the town. In 1685 an order was adopted compelling attendance at school by all children between the ages of five and nine years, living between "Round hill" and Mill river, under penalty of two pence per week for the space of half a year, to be paid by the parents neglecting to comply with the order. Then tuition rates were payable in wood, grain or money, at the choice of the person indebted to the town; and as late as 1709, when John Sherman taught the grammar school the agreement was that his salary of 40 pounds should be payable in "pease, rye, Indian corn and barley" at the town (market) price.

The educational system of the town previous to 1700 was crude and immature and while substantial advances were made and many good schools were established during the next hundred years the real march of progress in the direction of higher education was not begun until after the beginning of the nineteenth century. About 1717 the town was divided into precincts and provision was made for a school in each. Later on, after the town was reduced in area by other town formations, schools were established and maintained with some degree of regularity. Grammar schools also were supported, usually one in each town, according to the requirements of law, but the grammar schools provided for by the act of 1647 bore no comparison to the same schools of modern times. They were called grammar schools because grammar teaching was imperative, and because the master was required to instruct his pupils "so far as they can be fitted for the university." A school of this class, indeed more than one, was maintained in the town until about 1820, and while the course of study was available to all the youth of the town, the school itself was not popular, for then young persons were put to work as soon as the primary branches of reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic were finished and the regulations regarding attendance at the school were complied with. Indeed, while schools of a higher grade were required and provided for by law, they were not always welcomed by the burdened taxpaying in-

habitants, hence they were regarded as an expensive luxury and were supported reluctantly.

During the latter years of the eighteenth century, after the town was reduced to territory east of the Connecticut, its remaining lands were divided into school districts, and a committee was chosen to manage a school in each. Frequently, however, districts felt too poor to maintain a separate school and united with another district in supporting a joint school; but in 1800 the town voted that each district should have and support its own school. In 1823 the sum of $250 was voted for the town grammar school and $1,000 for the English or common schools. In the next year the accumulated school fund amounted to more than $6,000, but instead of being utilized directly for the benefit of schools it was loaned by the "trustees of the school fund" to various persons of the town on "secured" notes. This fund gradually increased and when finally it was made available for use by the chartered city it aggregated about $10,000. Moses Bliss was for many years clerk of the board of trustees of the school fund.

Previous to about 1825 the common district schools of the town were not in any sense progressive, and were conducted with reference to economy rather than the welfare of the youth. As a public necessity they were supported as the law required, but not one whit more than was obligatory was suggested or considered. In the year mentioned the town voted to appoint a committee to inquire into the existing conditions and to "digest" such improvements in the schools as in its judgment should seem proper. The committee selected for this duty comprised William B. Calhoun, Joseph Hall, Frederick A. Packard, James W. Crooks and Justice Willard.

In due season the committee made its report, which was accepted, and thereupon the town voted to appoint a committee of seven, to be joined with the stated clergymen of the town, "whose duty it shall be to see that all the provisions of the law of this commonwealth relative to schools are faithfully complied with, to examine all instructors, to determine what books shall be used in the several schools, and generally to have superintendence and

controlling power over the schools." This was the inauguration of the "school committee" system which has been maintained to the present day.

In 1827 the town voted an appropriation of $2,500 for the support of common schools and $500 for the support of a high school, the latter having become obligatory under an act of the legislature. A special committee was deemed necessary to devise means for establishing the high school, and Joseph Pease, Solomon Hatch, George Bliss, jr., David Rice, Allen Bangs, Israel E. Trask and William Childs were appointed in that capacity. The committee carefully examined the premises and reported that at that time there were 824 families or householders in the town; that in the five most central districts there were 508 families, 153 living north and 355 living south of the center of State street; that 303 families were living in the most central districts on the Connecticut river, and 205 families were in the "Hill" and Watershops districts.

This information was furnished for the purpose of determining the location of the school, but from what is stated it is seen that the center of population or residence at the time, in what now is the city, was south of State street. On the report of the committee the town voted to purchase from Charles Stearns, for $150, a lot of land in Union street, on which it was proposed to build the school house—a two-story brick building, 65x30 feet in size, with cupola and bell. The structure was to afford seating capacity for 125 "scholars" in each story, and the school was to be conducted on the "monitorial" plan. However, something soon happened to change the location of the building, for about this time Simon Sanborn came forward with a proposition to give a site in exchange or as an "offset" for a certain claim for damages. This new proposition found favor with the committee and it was determined to erect the first regular high school building at the northeast corner of School and High streets. It was built in 1827 and was occupied for its intended use until about 1839, when it was vacated, and the high school idea virtually abolished, being neither advantageous nor profitable for the education of the youth, according to the opinion of the tax-paying residents.

In 1841 it was voted to sell the land and building, the committee to negotiate the sale being John Howard, William Child and Francis M. Carew. But it appears that Mr. Sanborn had donated the land for the sole purpose of a school, and on the sale he received a fair proportion of the avails.

It was found, however, that a high school in the town was imperative under the law, hence in 1841 the district school building on Elm street, about on the site where now stands the court house, was occupied for that purpose. Its first principal was Rev. Sanford Lawton, who was followed in 1844 by Ariel Parish.

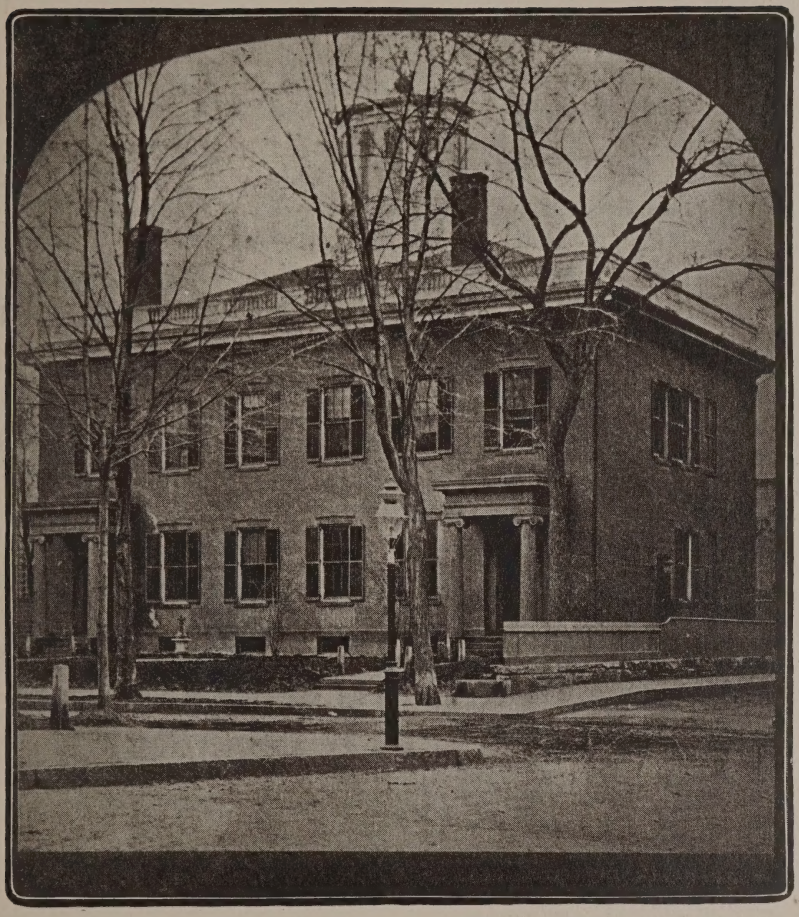
Soon after the dissolution of the first high school as an institution of the town a number of the more progressive citizens of the principal village determined to revive it and also to place the common schools on a more uniform and equitable basis of operation. In 1840 the appropriation for school purposes was $7,811.-08, and at that time the town comprised twenty districts. In the town meeting it was voted to appoint a superintendent to take general supervision of all the schools under the regular school committee. S. S. Green was the first and only incumbent of the office thus created, and while his efforts were in a measure successful, and the schools were improved under his superintendence, two years' experience with the new idea proved sufficient for the inhabitants, and the office was abolished in 1842.

In the meantime the affairs of the high school on Elm street were progressing with varied success, as the taxpayers in the localities known as Cabotville, Skipmuck, Indian Orchard and the Watershops contended that the greatest benefits of the institution were derived by the people of the village of Springfield, hence they set up an opposition to the appropriations for its maintenance, just as they fought against all other measures proposed for the improvement of the principal village. Still, under the law the school was maintained until about 1847 or '48, when all local interests were set aside while the subject of dividing the town was under consideration. This was accomplished in 1848, when Chicopee was incorporated as a town, but by that time the high school had so declined that its existence was hardly recognized.

In 1848 the legislature passed a new act in relation to high schools and it was soon discovered that the local institution was not conducted in conformity with the strict requirement of the law. The matter came up for consideration in the town meeting in 1849, the warrant stating as one of the subjects for action, "to see if the town will establish a high school conformably to the act passed in 1848." The result was the appointment of a committee to consider the subject, the members being Erasmus D. Beach, Samuel S. Day, Freeman Bangs, Harvey Danks, Homer Foot, Henry Pomeroy, Jonathan Carlisle, Oliver Kibbe, J. W. Fuller and F. A. Barton. In the report submitted to the town the committee say they "believe the town liable to a penalty by reason of non-compliance with the law," and suggest that an arrangement be made with district No. 1 (Springfield) by which the high school of the district be converted into a high school for the town; and further suggest that the school committee be empowered to make the arrangement.

At a later meeting the matter again was under discussion, and it was voted "that the law regulating the establishment of a high school in this town be so far complied with as to protect the town against prosecution for the penalty, *but no farther.*" In 1850 it was voted to continue the arrangement another year, but in 1851, probably on account of the unpleasant political feeling which pervaded the entire town and worked injury to every interest, no action was taken concerning the high school, and evidently the previous arrangement was renewed. The school house of district No. 1, to which allusion has been made, was built by the district for its own purposes and was regarded as one of the most pretentious structures of its kind in the county. The high school was established there in 1849, and was maintained until the erection of the first regularly known high school on State street in 1874. In the course of time the latter building became insufficient for the educational interests of the city and was replaced with the present structure on an adjoining tract of land in 1898, the latter being regarded as one of the most complete school buildings in Western Massachusetts.

Having briefly traced the history of the schools of the town from their beginning to the time of the city charter, it is proper



Old Academic High School Building, Springfield

On this site now stands the Police Headquarters

in the present connection to furnish the succession of the school committee from the time the office was created in 1825 to 1852, when under the charter the school system entered upon a new era of progress. The succession follows:

1825—William B. Calhoun, George Colton, Joseph Hall, jr., Joshua Frost, Frederick A. Packard, James W. Crooks, Justice Willard.

1826—Frederick A. Packard, William B. Calhoun, George Colton, Elijah Blake, John B. Kirkham, James W. Crooks, Daniel N. Dewey, and the clergymen of the several societies.

1827—William B. Calhoun, William Bliss, James W. Crooks.

1828—William B. Calhoun, William Bliss, James W. Crooks, Dr. L. W. Belden, Stephen C. Bemis.

1829—William B. Calhoun, William Bliss, Dr. L. W. Belden.

1830—William B. Calhoun, William Dwight, Josiah Hooker.

1831—William B. Calhoun, George Colton, Stephen C. Russell.

1832-34—Benjamin Putnam, Josiah Hooker, George Colton.

1835—Abraham C. Baldwin, William Bliss 3d, George Colton.

1836—Elihu Adams, Robert E. Bemis, Ebenezer B. Wright.

1837—Dorus Clark, H. A. Graves, Edwin Seeger, Artemas Rogers, Richard Bliss.

1838—Dorus Clark, H. A. Graves, Rev. Mr. Clapp, Jefferson Church, Richard Bliss.

1839—Dorus Clark, Sanford Lawton, Hiram A. Graves, Sumner G. Clapp, Jefferson Church.

1840-41—Ezekiel Russell, George Eaton, Robert T. Ellis, Jonathan Pease 2d, Henry R. Vaille.

1842—Henry W. Lee, James Swan, Mark Staples, Albert A. Folsom, Timothy W. Carter.

1843—Henry W. Lee, Eli B. Clark, Mark Staples (two vacancies).

1844—Henry W. Lee, Eli B. Clark, Robert F. Ellis, Albert A. Folsom, James Swan.

1845—William B. Calhoun, Henry W. Lee, Rev. Eli B. Clark, James Swan, Albert A. Folsom.

1846—William B. Calhoun, George E. Landon, Rev. Eli B. Clark, Henry W. Lee, Robert C. Mills.

1847—William B. Calhoun, Samuel McNary, Rev. Eli B. Clark, Henry W. Lee, Robert C. Mills.

1848—Josiah Hooker, Samuel McNary, Rev. Eli B. Clark, Robert Kellen, Miner G. Clark.

1849—Samuel Osgood, George F. Simmons, Miner G. Clark, Henry W. Adams.

1850—Josiah Hooker, Alexander S. McClean, William L. Smith.

1851—Alexander S. McClean, Josiah Hooker, Charles A. Winchester, William B. Calhoun, George Walker.

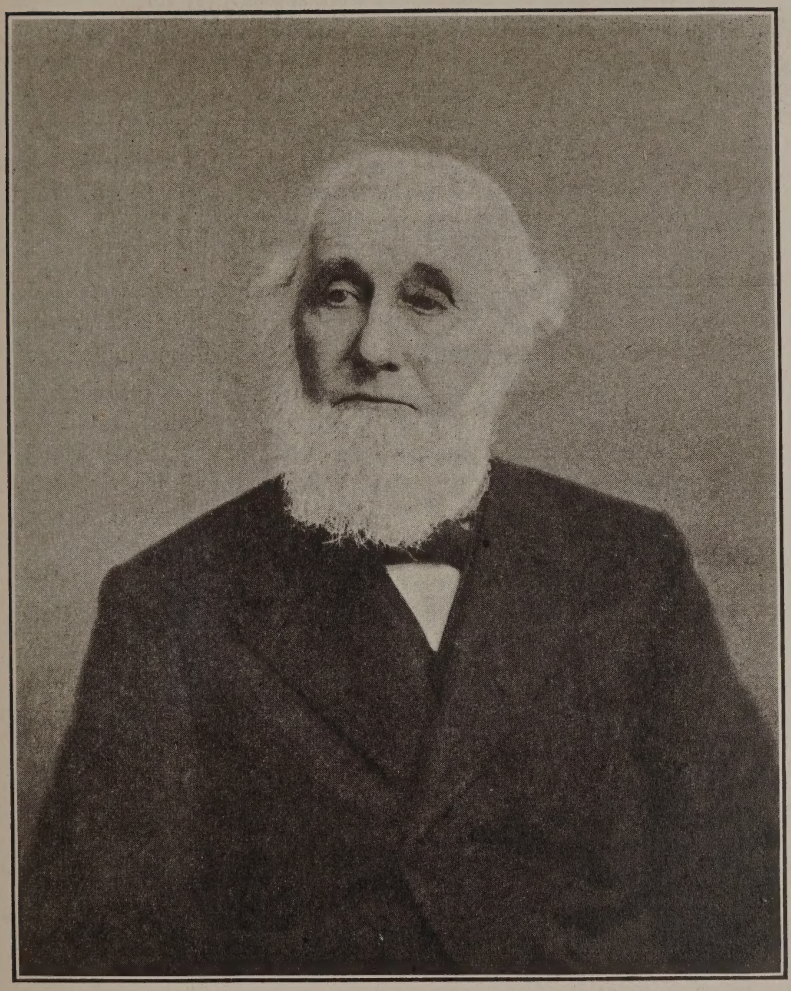
When in 1852 the legislature passed an act to establish the city of Springfield the affairs of local government, so far at least as the schools were concerned, were in a decidedly unwholesome condition. The state laws then in force were complied with by the several district and prudential committees just far enough to escape the penalty for non-compliance, and very few of the districts had shown a disposition to give the schools the loyal, earnest attention to which they were really entitled. The framers of the original city charter were not unmindful of the needs of the schools, but they were compelled to be exceedingly moderate in preparing the effective sections of the bill, else the same, if accompanied with arbitrary regulations, would have been rejected by the non-progressive element of population who were inclined to oppose the measure on general principles and sought some half-reasonable excuse on which to base their action.

Thus it was that the enacting sections relative to the schools which declared that "the limits of the several districts shall be abolished, and the several districts shall be united under one organization," were not made imperative, but were accompanied with a proviso to the effect that the act of consolidation should not become operative unless within ninety days from the acceptance of the charter act, "the several districts shall vote to dissolve their organizations and sell their school property." A fair number of districts did vote to dissolve their organizations and placed their schools within the jurisdiction of the general com-

mittee, but others voted to continue the former district arrangement, and thus delayed the work of placing all the schools on a uniform footing, with equal benefits to all; and it was not until December 1, 1855, that the last vestige of the old system disappeared. During the three years necessary to accomplish this work of reformation, the general school committee found itself burdened with the task of missionary labor, the arduous duty of converting the committees of the less progressive districts from the inbred notions of the old system to the more modern methods suggested by the city charter.

Again, the members of the first school board found themselves opposed by many elements outside the natural objections raised against the abandonment of the district system. The several departments of the new city government were clamorous for appropriations of money, and, as usual, the purely political element prevailed, and the schools were compelled to await the pleasure of the powers. Still substantial progress was made during the first few years of the schools under the charter, and an evening school for adults was opened in the winter of 1852. The committee, in its first annual report, urged the appointment of a superintendent, but the demand was not received with favor. During the first year Committeemen Hooker, Winchester and McClean acted as superintendents, devoting their time unselfishly to the work of visiting the schools, examining teachers as to their qualifications, and also examining and passing upon candidates for admission to the high school. This work required much of the time of the members, and frequently was done at great personal sacrifice.

In 1852, in addition to the high school, which was an institution of the old town, Springfield contained twelve school districts (and a total of thirty-one schools) known and designated as follows: No. 1, Center district, 924 children between the ages of five and fifteen years, and eight schools; No. 2, North district, 419 pupils and five schools; No. 3, South district, 126 pupils and three schools; No. 4, Armory Hill district, 387 pupils and five schools; No. 5, Ames district, 64 pupils and two schools; No. 6, Watershops district, 102 pupils and two schools; No. 7, Carlisle



Charles Barrows

For many years Principal in Springfield public schools

district, 19 pupils and one school; No. 8, Five Mile district, 29 pupils and one school; No. 9, Sixteen Acres district, 34 pupils and one school; No. 10, Wachoag district, 30 pupils and one school; No. 11, Putts Bridge district, 16 pupils and one school; No. 12, Indian Orchard district, 38 pupils and one school. In this year the total value of school property was estimated at $39,250, and the sum appropriated for school support was $7,500. The high school is described in the committee's report as a model school, although it was kept in an upper story of a building in the Center district on Court street.

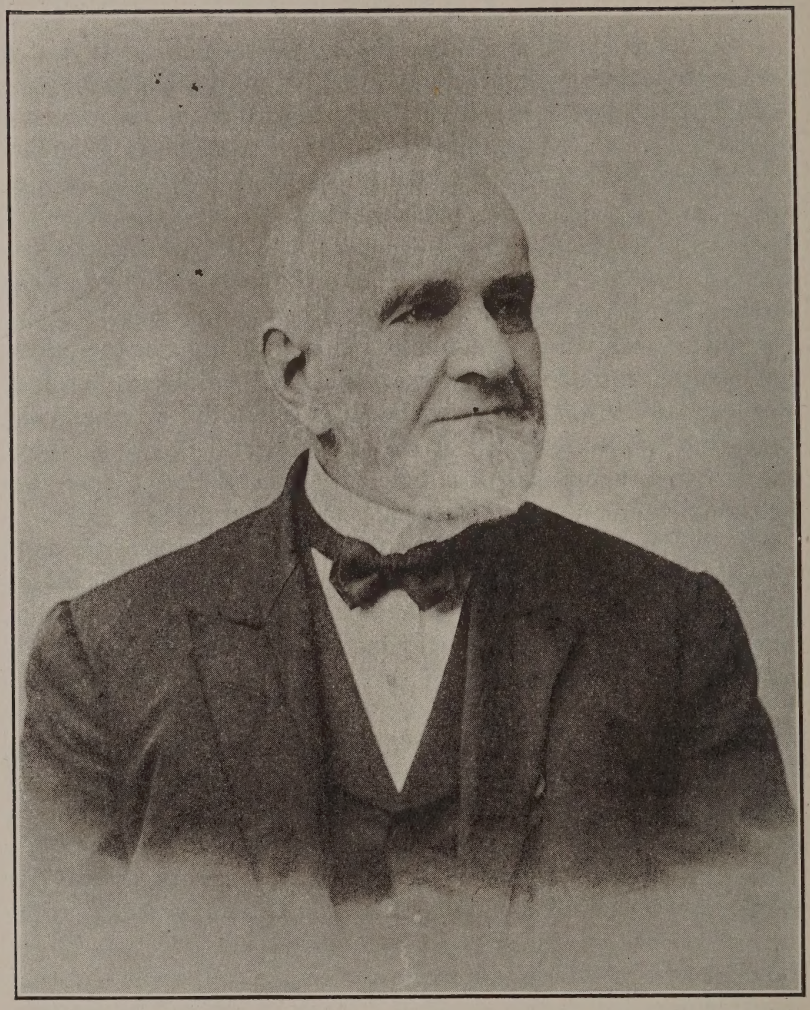
The school system of the city throughout the last fifty years has enjoyed a constant and healthful growth until it has attained a standing of especial prominence in educational circles in Massachusetts and in New England. From 1852 to about 1860 the growth was slow and conservative. At first the people did not appear to appreciate the benefits to be derived from schools of higher grade and many of them could not understand why their youth should be given greater advantages in the way of education than they themselves had enjoyed. They were reluctant to appropriate money for the erection of new buildings, and previous to 1864 all that was accomplished in improving the standing of the schools was done by the sub-committees of the general board. In the year mentioned the principals of the several grammar schools were given supervisory powers in their respective districts, and while this action had the effect to relieve the committees of part of their former work, the best success in the grammar schools was retarded by the enforced absence of the principals in supervising the work of the common schools.

However, in 1864 the office of superintendent of schools was created, to take effect January 1, 1865. E. A. Hubbard was the first superintendent and served in that capacity until April, 1873. Much good was accomplished during his term, both in the advancement of the schools themselves and in the erection of new buildings. Among the more prominent school houses built during this period mention may be made of that on North Main street—the Hooker school—and the Elm street building, both in 1865; the Oak street building on Armory hill and also that at

Indian Orchard, both in 1867; the Worthington street building in 1868; the Central street building in 1870; the West Union street and the White street buildings in 1872, and the partial completion of the high school building on State street in 1873.

On the resignation of Mr. Hubbard, Rev. William Rice was chosen his temporary successor, and served until the beginning of the next school year, when Admiral Paschal Stone assumed the duties of the office, beginning in September, 1873. His connection with the schools continued until April 1, 1888, and he was known as a practical thorough organizer, an agreeable associate and co-worker, and a faithful public official. Under him the schools prospered as never before, and the people finally became awakened to an active, earnest interest in the work of education. During his term, in 1874, the high school building was completed and dedicated, and in the same year the Brightwood building was erected. In the next year the Hooker building was partially destroyed by fire, but was at once rebuilt, and the East Union street primary building was erected. Among the other school houses built during his term we may recall that on York street in 1879, the Dry Bridge building in 1881, the Oak street primary and the Armory street buildings in 1884, the Ward 5 school house in 1887, and the beginning of the Jefferson avenue building in 1888. He, too, was chiefly instrumental in establishing the manual training school in 1886.

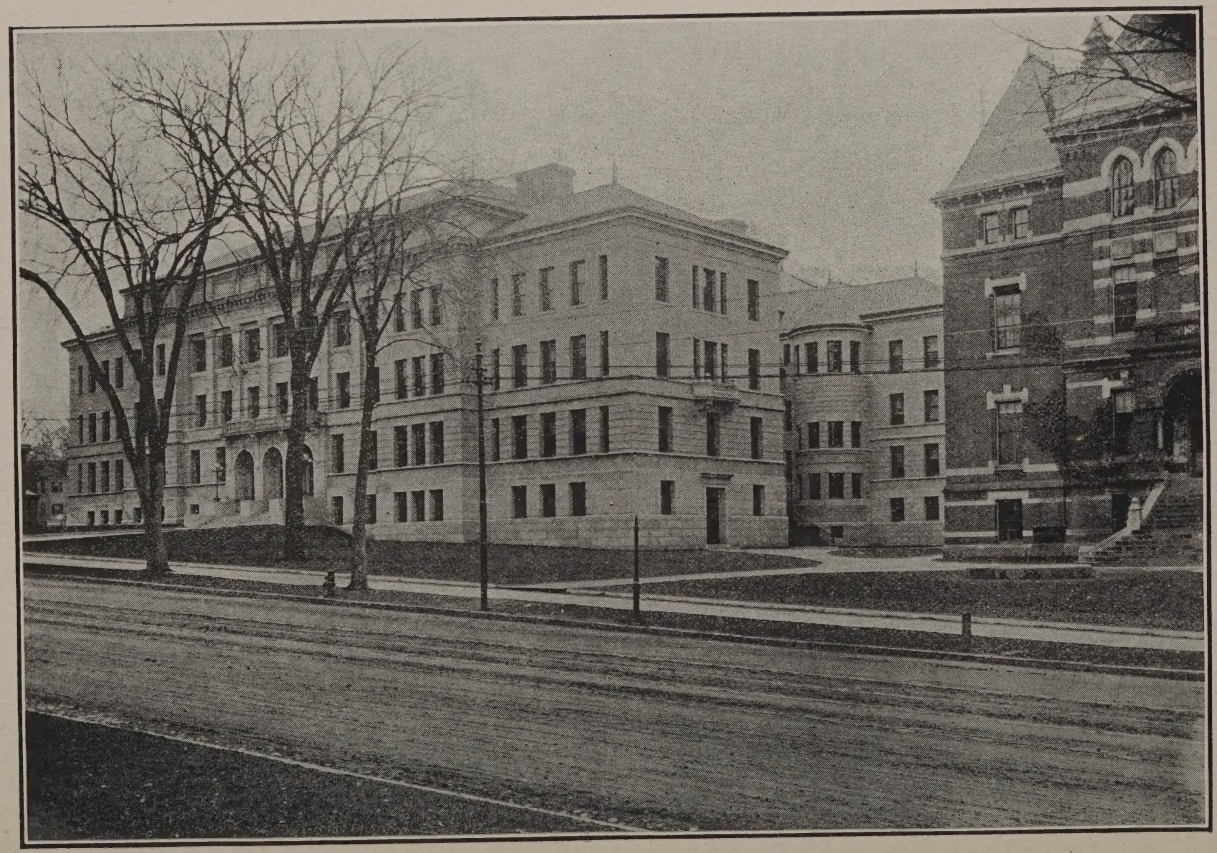
The present superintendent, Thomas M. Balliet, began his commendable work in Springfield April 1, 1888. He found the educational system in good condition, with reasonable convenience and comfort guaranteed under the existing order of things, yet there was room for still further improvement. Almost his first work was the establishment of the normal training school for teachers, which was opened in September, 1888, and from that time to the present his energies have been devoted to the welfare of those who work with him, and under him, all to the end that the city may have as good schools as can be devised by modern methods and advanced theories in teaching. His efforts have been seconded by the school committees with whom he has been associated, and the people have given loyal encouragement to his endeavors as an organizer and educator.



Admiral P. Stone

So many indeed have been the changes in the educational system of the city during Mr. Balliet's time that no attempt will be made to follow them in this chapter, and for definite information concerning them the reader may have recourse to the municipal register, in which the superintendent presents in detail the gradual development and annual growth of the Springfield schools. During the brief twelve years of his superintendency the school population of the city has almost doubled, the average number belonging to the schools has more than doubled, and the current expenses have increased nearly threefold. The records disclose that during this period large sums of money have been expended for new, modern school buildings, the largest outlays having been made in the years 1891, '97 and '98. The Jefferson avenue building was finished in 1889, the Charles street and the Adams street buildings in 1890, the Buckingham and Pynchon buildings in 1891, the School street building in 1892, the Belmont avenue building in 1893, the Carew street building in 1894, the South Main street building in 1896, the Central high school, the Homer street and the Indian Orchard primary in 1898, the Boston road, the Brightwood, the Eastern avenue and the Forest park buildings in 1899.

The Central High school on State street naturally is the chief object of interest to all who have occasion to observe the educational institutions of the city. In architectural design and interior appointment it is one of the most complete structures of its kind in the state, and its erection at a time when the city was burdened with the cost of many other public buildings reflects something of the liberality of the people and their loyalty to the cause of education. In 1841 the inhabitants of the town were content to open a high school in one of the upper rooms of a district school house on Elm street, yet before the end of the next ten years the institution virtually was discontinued. In 1849 it was found that a high school was compulsory under the law passed in 1848, and in compliance with the requirements of the act a new school of that grade and character was opened in an upper room of the district school building on Court street, on the site where now stands the police headquarters building. The



Central High School, Springfield

school was maintained there until 1874, when the first regular city high school was completed. The structure was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies, August 31, Augustus Lord Soule being the principal orator of the occasion.

The present Central High school was opened in September, 1898, about five years after the real need of such a structure was first proposed to the people by the school committee and the superintendent. Nearly two years were spent in discussing the question and preparing the minds (and, incidentally, the purses) of the taxpayers for what must come sooner or later. In the latter part of 1895 the project began to take definite form when Mayor Long appointed a special high school commission to investigate the subject, consider a location, and invite plans and specifications for a building with normal seating capacity for 800 pupils. The commission comprised Louis C. Hyde, Frederick Harris, James B. Carroll, Orlando M. Baker and Jason Perkins. Its work was carefully and thoroughly done, and the result of the labors of its members, jointly and severally, in co-operation with the school committee, is seen in the splendid high school building which attracts the admiration of visitors and citizens alike. According to the valuation fixed by the committee on city property, the land on which the high school stands is worth $98,000, while the structure itself is worth $335,000; value of furniture, $15,000.

The principals of the high school have been as follows: Rev. Samuel Lawton, 1841-44; Ariel Parish, 1844-64; E. A. Hubbard, acting principal associated with O. M. Fernald, 1865-66; M. C. Stebbins, 1866-74; William W. Colburn, 1874-90; Charles Jacobus, 1890-95; Fred W. Atkinson, 1895-1900, resigned in May to accept appointment as U. S. commissioner of education to the Philippines; William Orr, acting principal from May, 1900, to close of the school year, and principal, Sept. 1900.

STATISTICS OF THE SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

From its organization in 1849 to 1900:

Year	Number of Pupils	Number of Graduates	Year	Number of Pupils	Number of Graduates
1849	158		1875	246	16
1850	170		1876	336	33
1851	185		1877	354	27
1852	159		1878	407	51
1853	170		1879	426	54
1854	176		1880	405	58
1855	186		1881	372	46
1856	166	9[1]	1882	346	44
1857	156	14	1883	322	42
1858	172	14	1884	322	49
1859	166	17	1885	348	34
1860	173	25	1886	379	43
1861	163	13	1887	372	61[3]
1862	177	17	1888	370	52
1863	174	15	1889	344	61
1864	162	5	1890	345	45
1865	146	21	1891	391	56
1866	137	10	1892	408	52
1867	148	12	1893	429	53
1868	195	16	1894	468	53[4]
1869	217	2[2]	1895	483	51
1870	207	14	1896	484	58
1871	181	19	1897	525	86
1872	172	24	1898	569	83
1873	185	21	1899	622	70
1874	201	20	1900	657	124

[1]Previous to this date there were no graduating exercises.

[2]The course was changed this year from three to four years.

[3]This was the first year in which any pupils were graduated in the two-years' business course.

[4]The business course was abolished after 1894.

School Committees.[1]

1852—Josiah Hooker, Charles A. Winchester, Alexander S. McClean, George Walker, William P. Bagg, Henry Adams, Marcellus Pinney, Frederick Holt.

1853—Josiah Hooker, Charles A. Winchester, A. S. McClean, Alfred Lambert, V. L. Owen, Jabez C. Terry, Henry Pomeroy, Harvey E. Moseley.

1854—Josiah Hooker, Charles A. Winchester, A. S. McClean, Horace S. Taylor, Samuel McNary, Henry Pomeroy, George O. Lombard, Frederick Holt.

1855—Chester R. Chaffee, John E. Taylor, Henry R. Vaille, Randolph E. Ladd, Charles P. Bragdon, Isaac P. Dickinson, Marcellus Pinney, Harvey E. Moseley.

1856—Josiah Hooker, William L. Smith, Samuel Osgood, John B. Kirkham, V. L. Owen, Edwin L. Hall, John Kimberly, Samuel Mills, jr.

1857—Josiah Hooker, R. B. Hildreth, Samuel Osgood, John B. Kirkham, V. L. Owen, Edwin L. Hall, John Kimberly, Samuel Mills, jr.

1858—Josiah Hooker, at large; Dr. W. G. Breck, James E. McIntire, Rev. Samuel Osgood, Dr. Abram Paige, Dr. V. L. Owen, Edwin L. Hall, John Kimberly, Rev. E. D. Murphy.

1859—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, James E. McIntire, Samuel Osgood, Charles Marsh, V. L. Owen, Edwin L. Hall, John Kimberly, Marcus W. Fay.

1860—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, James E. McIntire, Samuel Osgood, Osmond Tiffany, G. W. Harrison, E. L. Hall, John Kimberly, Marcus W. Fay.

1861—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, James E. McIntire, Samuel Osgood, Osmond Tiffany, G. W. Harrison, R. Crossett, M. Pinney, Marcus W. Fay.

1862—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, J. E. McIntire, Samuel Osgood, Francis Tiffany, G. W. Harrison, R. Crossett, M. Pinney, Marcus W. Fay.

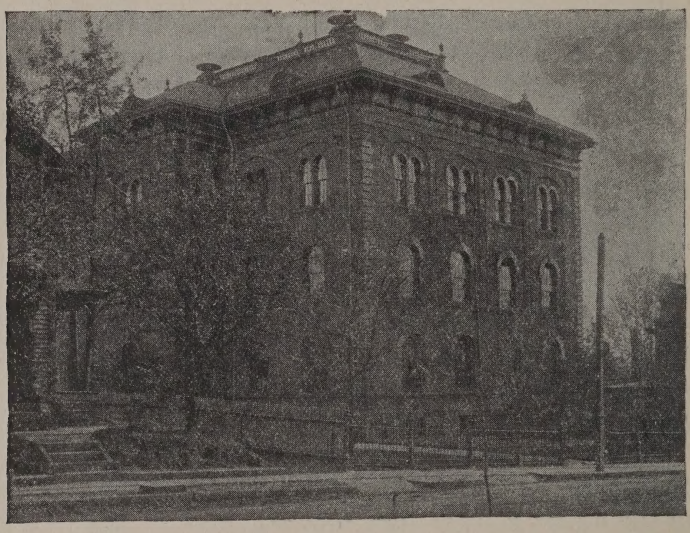
1863—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, J. E. McIn-

[1]Members of school committees are mentioned in the order of ward numbers.

tire, S. G. Buckingham, Francis Tiffany, Horace Kibbe, Obadiah Frary, M. Pinney, M. W. Fay.

1864—Josiah Hooker, at large; R. B. Hildreth, J. E. McIntire, S. G. Buckingham, Francis Tiffany, Horace Kibbe, J. G. Chase, W. W. Gardner, A. J. Plumer.

1865—Josiah Hooker, at large; Rev. Josiah Marvin, Rev. William Rice, Rev. S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, Horace Kibbe, John B. Stebbins, William W. Gardner, Andrew J. Plumer.



Worthington Street School, Springfield

1866—Josiah Hooker, at large; Josiah Marvin, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, Horace Kibbe, John B. Stebbins, W. W. Gardner, Hiram Warner.

1867—Josiah Hooker, at large; Josiah Marvin, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, Horace Kibbe, John B. Stebbins, Marcellus Pinney, Hiram Warner.

1868—Horace J. Chapin, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, Horace Kibbe, John B. Stebbins, M. Pinney, Hiram Warner.

1869—Horace Kibbe, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, S. W. Porter, John B. Stebbins, M. Pinney, Hiram Warner.

1870—Horace Kibbe, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, S. W. Porter, Mrs. Randolph, E. Ladd, W. W. Gardner, Charles J. Goodwin.

1871—John E. Taylor, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, S. W. Porter, S. D. Burbank, W. W. Gardner, Charles J. Goodwin.

1872—John E. Taylor, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, John L. King, Samuel W. Porter, S. D. Burbank, W. W. Gardner, Charles J. Goodwin.

1873—John E. Taylor, at large; John M. Stebbins, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, Timothy M. Brown, S. W. Porter, John B. Stebbins, W. W. Gardner, Stephen Harris.

1874—Rev. A. D. Mayo, at large; J. E. Taylor, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, T. M. Brown, S. W. Porter, John Fallon, W. W. Gardner, C. J. Goodwin.

1875—A. D. Mayo, at large, J. E. Taylor, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, T. M. Brown, S. W. Porter, John Fallon, W. W. Gardner, C. J. Goodwin.

1876—A. D. Mayo, at large; J. E. Taylor, William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, T. M. Brown, S. W. Porter, J. G. Chase, John Giles, C. J. Goodwin.

1877—A. D. Mayo, at large; J. E. Taylor, Rev. William Rice, S. G. Buckingham, T. M. Brown, S. W. Porter, J. G. Chase, John Giles, C. J. Goodwin.

1878—Rev. A. D. Mayo, at large; J. E. Taylor, William Rice, Sanford Lawton, jr., T. M. Brown, Rev. L. H. Cone, J. G. Chase, John Stiles, C. J. Goodwin.

1879—Rev. A. D. Mayo, at large; J. E. Taylor, William Rice, Dr. Sanford Lawton, jr., Rev. L. H. Cone, J. G. Chase, A. M. Copeland, C. J. Goodwin (one vacancy).

1880—John E. Taylor, Joseph C. Pynchon, Rev. William Rice, Sanford Lawton, jr., L. H. Cone, T. M. Brown, J. G. Chase, A. M. Copeland, C. J. Goodwin.

1881—John E. Taylor, at large; Joseph C. Pynchon, William Rice, John R. Smith, C. S. Hurlbut, Orlando M. Baker, J. G. Chase Alfred M. Copeland, C. J. Goodwin.

1882—John E. Taylor, at large; Joseph C. Pynchon, William Rice, John R. Smith, Cornelius S. Hurlbut, O. M. Baker, James D. Safford, W. W. Gardner, C. J. Goodwin.

1883—Avery J. Smith, at large; George H. Belock, Milton Bradley, John R. Smith, C. S. Hurlbut, O. M. Baker, J. D. Safford, W. W. Gardner, C. J. Goodwin.

1884—The Mayor; Avery J. Smith, at large; George H. Belock, Milton Bradley, John R. Smith, C. S. Hurlbut, O. M. Baker, J. D. Safford, W. W. Gardner, Charles J. Goodwin.

1885—The Mayor; Avery J. Smith, at large; George H. Belock, Milton Bradley, John R. Smith, C. S. Hurlbut, O. M. Baker, J. D. Safford, Rawson Hathaway, C. J. Goodwin.

1886—The Mayor; James L. Johnson, at large; G. H. Belock, Edward H. Phelps, John R. Smith, C. S. Hurlbut, O. M. Baker, J. D. Safford, R. Hathaway, C. J. Goodwin.

1887—The Mayor; James L. Johnson, at large; G. H. Belock, E. H. Phelps, Adelaide A. Calkins, C. S. Hurlbut, Ellen B. Merriam, J. D. Safford, Rawson Hathaway, Charles J. Goodwin.

1888—The Mayor; J. L. Johnson, at large; G. H. Belock, E. H. Phelps, Adelaide A. Calkins, C. S. Hurlbut, Ellen B. Merriam, J. D. Safford, Rawson Hathaway, Charles J. Goodwin.

1889—The Mayor; J. L. Johnson, at large; Harlan P. Stone, G. H. Belock, Adelaide A. Calkins, C. S. Hurlburt, Ellen B. Merriam, J. D. Safford, Rawson Hathaway, Charles J. Goodwin.

1890—The Mayor; J. L. Johnson, at large; H. P. Stone, G. H. Belock, A. A. Calkins, Clark W. Bryan, E. B. Merriam, W. C. Simons, R. Hathaway, C. J. Goodwin.

1891—The Mayor; J. L. Johnson, at large; H. P. Stone, G. H. Belock, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, E. B. Merriam, W. C. Simons, Edward O. Robinson, Henry K. Wight.

1892—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; H. P. Stone, S. D. Brooks, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, E. B. Merriam, W. C. Simons, E. O. Robinson, H. K. Wight.

1893—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; H. P. Stone, S. D. Brooks, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, Rachel B. Jacobs, W. C. Simons, Wm. O. Day, H. K. Wight.

1894—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; H. P. Stone, S. D. Brooks, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, R. B. Jacobs, W. C. Simons, W. O. Day, H. K. Wight.

1895—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; J. G. Dunning, Adelaide H. Trask, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, R. B. Jacobs, W. C. Simons, W. O. Day, H. K. Wight.

1896—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; J. G. Dunning, A. H. Trask, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, R. B. Jacobs, W. C. Simons, W. O. Day, H. K. Wight.

1897—The Mayor; Elisha B. Maynard, at large; J. G. Dunning, A. H. Trask, A. A. Calkins, C. W. Bryan, R. B. Jacobs, W. C. Simons, Frank N. Seerley, Chas. Jacobus.

1898—The Mayor; Oscar B. Ireland, at large; Willard F. Tripp, George D. Weston, Adelaide A. Calkins, Clark W. Bryan, Rachel B. Jacobs, William C. Simons, Frank N. Seerley, Charles Jacobus.

1899—The Mayor; Oscar B. Ireland, at large; vacancy in ward one, Dr. George D. Weston, Adelaide H. Trask, John A. Hall, Rachel B. Jacobs, William C. Simons, Frank N. Seerley, Charles Jacobus.

1900—The Mayor; Oscar B. Ireland, at large; Franklin A. Latimer, jun., Dr. George D. Weston, Adelaide H. Trask, John A. Hall, Rachel B. Jacobs, Frederick E. Hopkins, James G. Dunning, Frank N. Seerley.

1901—The Mayor; Oscar B. Ireland, at large; Frank H. Goldthwait, George D. Weston, Adelaide H. Trask, John A. Hall, Rachel B. Jacobs, Frederick E. Hopkins, James G. Dunning, Frank N. Seerley.

In connection with the history of the growth and development of the schools of Springfield the appended statistical tables (taken from the municipal register) furnish an interesting study.

EXPENDITURES, SCHOOL POPULATION AND ENROLLMENT

From the Organization of the City in 1852 to 1900

From 1852 to 1856 expenditures for repairs were included in current expenses. The Mutual Training school was established in 1886 (reorganized as the Mechanic Arts High School in 1898); the Cooking school in 1893; and the public Kindergarten in 1894. The amounts expended under these heads are included under "Current Expenses."

Year	Current Expenses	Repairs and Alterations	New Buildings	School Census	Enrollment	Average Number Belonging
1852	$6,558 89	.....	.....	2,188	2,270	1,549
1853	13,257 31	.....	.....	2,253	2,273	1,642
1854	15,049 89	.....	.....	2,449	2,561	1,621
1855	16,451 22	.....	.....	2,641	2,409	1,769
1856	17,501 03	.....	.....	2,606	2,441	1,815
1857	18,727 67	$4,146 81	$6,403 47	2,525	2,459	1,824
1858	18,494 40	3,144 54	671 00	2,675	2,569	1,862
1859	18,315 77	2,939 82	1,553 16	2,505	2,546	1,855
1860	18,115 04	3,532 04	.....	2,472	2,594	1,934
1861	17,961 30	2,956 24	.....	2,688	2,752	1,959
1862	19,358 08	2,601 92	.....	3,090	3,027	2,133
1863	22,361 56	939 55	.....	3,341	3,808	2,342
1864	29,941 54	5,662 30	10,645 00	3,709	3,753	2,298
1865	37,242 93	5,516 10	53,969 78	3,713	3,822	2,490
1866	48,542 28	5,728 90	59,062 72	3,846	3,675	3,187
1867	54,423 56	3,718 32	41,267 84	4,225	3,760	3,266
1868	66,544 60	7,529 04	62,270 59	4,141	4,029	3,304
1869	68,524 83	7,778 57	34,285 49	4,156	4,617	3,509
1870	73,636 97	4,027 70	12,444 57	4,232	4,697	3,822
1871	79,489 26	4,096 28	28,490 00	4,167	4,901	3,717
1872	92,286 88	5,086 27	71,202 63	4,331	4,853	3,674
1873	96,380 77	16,760 80	53,095 82	4,399	5,238	3,900
1874	110,066 43	16,545 76	69,979 01	4,712	5,448	4,071
1875	115,788 04	21,958 95	17,098 73	5,668	5,743	4,296
1876	106,949 96	5,221 48	.....	5,408	5,890	4,481
1877	89,489 74	2,938 91	.....	5,375	5,877	4,615
1878	83,087 62	1,708 02	.....	5,379	5,625	4,298
1879	81,780 65	2,528 04	.....	5,524	5,636	4,475
1880	83,053 74	7,497 14	1,169 69	5,865	5,834	4,538
1881	88,267 73	9,240 86	.....	6,285	5,981	4,667
1882	92,081 29	9,088 23	.....	6,452	6,054	4,727
1883	98,624 26	10,672 68	17,228 99	6,566	6,070	4,661
1884	107,523 95	10,159 73	7,664 96	6,583	5,520	4,327
1885	111,851 90	7,490 23	1,626 17	6,330	5,665	4,517
1886	109,990 53	7,021 26	.....	6,472	5,813	4,648
1887	115,749 65	9,399 94	19,053 60	6,516	5,841	4,643
1888	124,739 06	9,348 20	30,712 40	6,416	5,922	4,647
1889	134,938 12	9,314 65	39,072 98	6,935	6,165	4,982
1890	146,488 62	16,208 53	48,943 67	7,054	6,455	5,180
1891	157,644 68	17,630 70	76,052 19	7,134	6,467	5,217
1892	163,570 40	10,447 98	13,829 18	7,318	6,970	5,585
1893	172,298 48	11,549 10	26,314 01	7,716	7,225	5,799
1894	184,592 41	10,995 75	46,562 87	8,002	7,637	6,340
1895	198,620 20	13,647 77	26,758 82	8,041	8,304	6,810
1896	219,531 84	8,911 17	43,878 11	8,307	8,717	7,266
1897	239,679 72	16,095 08	238,196 30	8,814	9,488	7,869
1898	262,972 39	38,881 78	363,249 04	9,202	10,044	8,260
1899	302,854 35	12,706 09	71,783 82	9,738	10,786	9,072
1900	321,804 66	11,437 20	81,698 41	10,251	11,261	9,300

TABLE GIVING A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY; ALSO THE VALUE OF SCHOOLHOUSES, LOTS, ETC.

BUILDINGS	No. of Stories.	No. of School Rooms.	No. of Desks and Seats.	Date of Occupation.	Value of Land.	Value of Buildings.	Value of Furniture.	TOTAL	Area of Lots. (Sq. Ft.)
Alden Street	2	4	202	1890	$ 2,500	$14,200 00	$306 00	$17,006 00	18,767
Armory Street	1	2	122	1884	400	3,000 00	323 50	3,723 50	12.921
Barrows	3	10	580	1868	10,000	40,000 00	789 13	50,789 13	37.637
*Belmont Avenue	2	4		1893	2,344	5,400 00		7,744 00	21,026
Boston Road	1	2	42	1899	800	3,600 00	270 00	4,670 00	43,560
*Brightwood	2	4		1874	1,075	10,000 00	651 24	11,726 24	15,695
Brightwood (new building)	2	7	294	1899	3,000	34,800 00	1,430 00	39,230 00	32,646
Buckingham	2	12	614	1891	8,082	48,000 00	2,351 00	58,433 00	37,114
Carew Street	2	13	612	1894	8,500	45,000 00	946 00	54,446 00	36,000
*Carlisle	2	1			800	1,000 00	70 00	1,870 00	43,569
Central Street	3	11	568	1871	4,000	45,000 00	1,264 00	50 264 00	23,954
Charles Street	2	4	196	1890	6,000	14,000 00	248 00	20,248 00	9,951
*Dry Bridge	1	1		1881	300	1,000 00	56 00	1.556 00	11,434
Eastern Avenue	2	8	252	1899	3,200	29,270 00	1,074 00	33,544 00	27,720
East Union Street	2	8	349	1876	2,000	23,000 00	1,235 00	26,235 00	25,779
Elm Street	4	13	637	1866	37,500	52,000 00	850 00	90.350 00	30,123
Emery Street	2	4	178		5,000	10,000 00	320 00	15,320 00	6,819
Five Mile Pond	2	1	35		100	2,000 00	45 00	2,145 00	17,887
Forest Park	3	16	672	1899	8,300	82,000 00	2,400 00	92,700 00	62,630
Glenwood	1	1	48	1888	100	1,200 00	48 00	1,348 00	8,398
High (Central)	3	16	768	1898	98,800	335,000 00	15,000 00	448 800 00	110,902
Hooker	3	14	600	1866	33,000	60,000 00	2,315 00	95.315 00	33,411
Homer Street	2	9	342	1898	7,000	36,000 00	1,737 00	44,737 00	52,200
Jefferson Avenue	2	10	411	1889	5,000	40,000 00	1,000 00	46,000 00	21,079
Indian Orchard Primary	2	4	232	1898	1,800	12,000 00	720 00	14,520 00	22,500
Indian Orchard Grammar	3	7	401	1868	1,500	22,000 00	1,423 00	24.923 00	40,736
*Parker Street, I. O	2	2			400	1,000 00	50 00	1,450 00	21.780
Pynchon Street	2	8	288	1891	16,600	31,000 00	1,635 00	49,235 00	20,885
School Street	2	4	195	1892	5,000	18,000 00	600 00	23,600 00	6,596
Sixteen Acres	2	2	73		100	2,000 00	42 00	2,142 00	15,056
South Main Street	2	13	452	1896	13,800	43,000 00	2,400 00	59,200 00	18,850
Strickland	2	6	301	1884	5,000	20,000 00	613 00	25,613 00	6,050
State Street	3	9	624	1874	44,000	80,000 00	3,025 00	127,025 00	30,778
Tapley	2	9	396	1888	10,000	32,000 00	1,200 00	43.200 00	45,083
Wachogue	1	1	42		100	800 00	35 00	935 00	8,275
*West Union Street	2	4	194	1872	2,000	7,300 00	245 00	9,545 00	6,822
*White Street	2	1		1872	100	2,000 00	37 00	2,137 00	18,750
Worthington Street	3	11	560	1869	16,600	50,000 00	848 00	67,448 00	38,500
*York Street	2	4			2,000	300 00		2,300 00	15,449
Armory Street, New	2	12			3,000	17,487 24		20,487 24	
William Street, New	2	12			16.450	44,761 17		61,211 17	
Office Building	2				8,000	3,000 00	1,200 00	12,200 00	
Mechanic Arts High	3	2	72						
					$394,251	$1,322,318 41	$48,801 87	$1,765,371 28	

*Unused.

During the early years of the century just closed, at a time when the common schools were not conducted under strict legislative enactment, there came a demand for private and select schools in which children might have the advantages of a good education at comparatively small expense. One of the earliest institutions of this character was a private academic school on Elm street, which was opened about 1812 and was continued with fair success until about 1825. Among the teachers here in early days were Benjamin Day, Mr. Lusk, Mr. Olmstead, Mr. Morley, and J. W. Crooks, each of whom was dignified with the title of "Professor," and a portion of whom were active factors in the history of the town outside of educational circles.

About five years later, in 1829, Julia Hawkes opened a select school for girls in a house on Maple street. This is remembered as a school of unusual merit and one which was liberally patronized by the well-to-do people of the town. Rev. Mr. Eaton succeeded Miss Hawkes in the management of the school and continued at its head about two years. A Lancasterian school was opened in Springfield in 1829, and was continued about two years.

In 1835 Rev. George Nichols opened a select school of high grade at the corner of Main and State streets, but soon afterward removed to the building next west of the old court house on Court street. Under a succession of competent instructors the school was continued in existence until about 1880, when the growing popularity of the city public and high schools induced parents to withdraw their patronage from the select schools and send them to those maintained at the public expense. During the later years of its existence the school referred to was known as the Springfield English and classical institute, and under the charge of Mrs. Nichols, Miss H. S. Avery, Elizabeth Stebbins, Celia and Mary Campbell, E. D. Bangs and C. C. Burnett it was an institution of prominence in the city.

Another of the old-time private schools of Springfield, and one which gained a liberal patronage, was that established during the late seventies and known as Miss Howard's school for girls. Many wives and mothers now living in the city can recall

pleasing memories in connection with their attendance at this school. Other persons refer with equal pleasure to Rev. M. C. Stebbins' college preparatory school which was established in 1874 and for a time was quartered in the old court house.

"The Elms," a family, day and boarding school for girls, located on High street, is one of the oldest select schools in the county and also is one of the best. The school was founded in Hadley, in 1866, by Charlotte W. Porter (associated for a time with Abby Smith, of Hadley, and later with Rena Champney, of Northampton), whose purpose from the beginning was to found a school where thorough instruction should be given in every department, and with it the refinements, comforts and personal care of a well-ordered home. In 1881 the school was removed to Springfield that its efficiency might be increased and a larger number of pupils received in the day school. The Harvard examinations were from the first made the standard of the work done in the school, and it gradually became evident that in order to maintain the kind of school for which The Elms wished to stand, it must make college preparation a distinctive feature. Accordingly the certificate privilege was obtained from Vassar, Smith, Wellesley and Mt. Holyoke, and since 1886, with the exception of three years, the school has annually sent pupils to the various colleges.

"The Elms" stands for thorough instruction not only in its college preparatory and special courses, including French and German, but also in its music course, which fits for the examinations for the first degree of the American college of musicians. It probably was the first school in this locality to introduce the study of current wants as a part of regular school work. The "Periodical class," later called the "Outlook class," was started in 1887, and as the good results of the work was seen in the girls, the women of Springfield became interested, and at their request classes were formed for them, until now a class of between 60 and 70 meets fortnightly for two hours to discuss current wants and current literature.

A day and boarding school was opened in Springfield in 1866 by Mr. and Mrs. J. Giles, and for a score and more of years

thereafter it was a flourishing institution in the city, special attention being given to college preparatory work. A later school of similar character, with special courses of study in modern languages, is that now and for many years past conducted by Rev. Paul H. Pitkin, at No. 629 Chestnut street. It is in all respects a worthy institution, deserving the consideration of all our people. The same also may be said of the MacDuffie school for girls, located at No. 182 Central street.

St. Joseph's Church, Howard Street, Springfield

For many years the city has been noted for the excellence of the parochial schools which have been established in connection with the Roman Catholic parishes. One of the first of these was the Sacred Heart school on Everett street, founded in 1874 by Rev. Father McDermott, pastor of the Sacred Heart church and parish, and placed in charge of the sisters of Notre Dame in 1887, when 330 children were present to give greeting to their teachers.

Next in seniority is St. Michael's hall and school, established in 1882, during the time of Father Burke. The erection of the

school house was begun in 1880; the corner-stone was laid in July, 1881, and the building was dedicated in November, 1882. This school is under charge of the sisters of St. Joseph.

A parochial school in St. Joseph's parish was opened in 1884. The present school house was erected in 1897, and in the following year was given in charge of the sisters of the Holy Cross. In 1899 this school had 370 children in the first four grades, nearly all of whom were of French-Canadian descent.

In 1890 Rev. Father Boudouin became pastor of St. Aloysius Church at Indian Orchard. He founded and built the Sisters' convent, on Worcester street, the home of six sisters of the order of Assumption, in whose care is placed the education of 350 children.

The International Young Men's Christian Association Training School.—In 1885 Rev. David Allen Reed founded in Springfield the School for Christian Workers, of which a department with J. T. Bowne at its head was devoted to the training of young men for the secretaryship of the Y. M. C. A. The course of study covered two years and was well calculated to qualify men for association work. In 1890 the institution became separately incorporated under its present name. During 1891 a large and desirable site, facing on "Massasoit lake," was purchased. The gymnasium was erected in 1894 and the dormitory was completed in the next year.

The secretarial course has been extended to three years, and the subjects studied are grouped around bible, church and association history and methods, economics and sociology, and psychology. The physical department was organized in 1887 with Luther Gulick and R. J. Roberts in charge. These summer sessions of from six to ten weeks each were continued for five years. In the regular session of 1887-88 a two years' physical course was introduced; and was continued until 1894-95 when another year was added. Since that time men in the physical course spend three years in the practical and technical problems of physical training.

The school owns property valued at $117,000, consisting of 30 acres of land with all necessary accommodations for 65 stu-

dents. The library is one of the best in existence on association literature and publications, and is thoroughly classified and indexed.

This school aims to equip young men for the offices of general secretary, physical director and director of boys' work in the Y. M. C. A. Christian young men desiring to fit themselves for the directorship of college and school gymnasiums are also admitted. Of the employed men now in association work, 135 have attended this institution, and in addition, 15 men who have attended are now physical directors in colleges, universities or preparatory schools.

The present officers of the institution are L. L. Doggett, Ph. D., president; Preston D. Keith, vice-president; Henry H. Bowman, treasurer.

The Bible Normal College, founded under the name of the School for Christian Workers, was incorporated under the general laws of this state January 28, 1885. It is a school of religious pedagogy, the especial aim being to train young men for religious and philanthropic work, and to prepare its students for instructorships in bible, primary and normal schools; for the work of city, home and foreign missionaries, and also as field superintendents.

In Springfield this school has accomplished much good and has sent a number of young men into responsible positions, yet the institution has not met with the gratifying success its worth and importance has deserved. At a recent meeting of the corporation it was determined to remove the school from Springfield to Hartford. The officiary for the year 1901 is as follows: Rev. David Allen Reed, president; George H. Archibald and Rev. Jesse L. Hurlbut, vice-presidents; George D. Chamberlain, treasurer; Edwin F. Lyford, secretary.

The French-American College was founded in Lowell, Mass., in 1885, under the name of French-Protestant college, and was removed to Springfield in 1888. At the annual meeting of the corporation, June 1, 1894, it was unanimously voted to change the name of the institution from French-Protestant to French-American college. At the same time the following statement of principles was adopted:

"I. This is a Christian institution. It is established in the interests of the Kingdom of Christ, for the purpose of forming and developing Christian manhood and womanhood.

"II. This is a protestant college, recognizing the Holy scriptures as the supreme authority in all matters of faith and practice, and affirming for all men the right of private judgment and liberty of conscience.

"III. This is an evangelical institution, accepting that interpretation of scripture teaching which is generally held among the churches commonly called evangelical.

"IV. This is a catholic institution, in hearty accord with all branches of Christ's church, even with those with which we have no organic connection, and in deep sympathy with all evangelizing movements throughout ecumenical Christendom, which tend to further the establishment of Christ's kingdom throughout the world.

"V. This is an American institution, maintaining those intellectual and moral standards which prevail in American institutions of higher christian education, upholding American ideals, inculcating the American spirit and supporting American institutions of social order and of civil and religious liberty."

When the corporation determined to remove the seat of the institution from Lowell to Springfield the trustees were influenced in their action only by the best interests of the college and by the same considerations which have prompted the removal to this city of so many other notable institutions and interests. The field was found more broad, the surroundings more congenial, and more, Springfield long had been known as a seat of culture and refinement, as well as a "city of homes." In its new home the college was first opened in buildings in the east part of the city, but subsequently the corporation purchased a considerable tract of land (now 5½ acres in extent) on State street, where the buildings are now located. The grounds occupy the block bounded by State and College streets, and Wilbraham and Windsor avenues. The institution is organized on the usual plan, with college and preparatory school, open to both sexes.

The French-American college aims to instruct its students in branches usually taught in New England schools and colleges,

with special reference to training for the ministry, to bring French-Americans into a certain kind of life—a life in which a pure christianity at once creates and regulates liberty.

The officers of the corporation are Rev. Samuel H. Lee, president; Rev. Samuel H. Woodrow vice-president; Henry H. Bowman, treasurer; Jonathan Barnes, clerk; H. Curtis Rowley, auditor. The trustees are Rev. S. H. Lee, Jonathan Barnes, H. H. Bowman, Rev. Joshua Coit, Miss Emily Winters, Rev. S. H. Woodrow, Rev. T. S. St. Aubin, Z. Willis Kemp, Gov. W. Murray Crane, Henry A. King, D. B. Wesson, Rev. F. B. Makepeace, Miss Celia C. Merriam, Miss Charlotte W. Porter, H. Curtis Rowley, William E. Wright, Mary E. Wooley; Rev. Winfield S. Hawkes, financial secretary.

More than three-quarters of a century ago a business school was opened in Springfield, and instruction was given in shorthand, book-keeping, penmanship and mathematics. Throughout all subsequent years a school of this character has been maintained in the city, but the modern methods of instruction are wholly unlike those of earlier times. Indeed, there has been the same comparative advancement in this field of education as in the public and high schools, and the business school or college is now regarded as a public necessity. At the present time Springfield has two such institutions, both well equipped for educational work in their special line, and both worthy of the consideration of all our people.

The Springfield Business school, which perhaps is one of the most noted and widely known institutions of its class in New England, was established in 1884 by Elmer E. Childs, then occupying two small rooms in Bill's block, on Main street. Later on it was removed to a hall in the Haynes building, and thence in 1898 to splendidly equipped apartments in the Besse building, occupying the entire upper floor. From the time the school was founded the present proprietor, B. J. Griffin, has been immediately connected with the shorthand department, first as teacher, then as associate owner, and finally as sole proprietor. He became partner with Mr. Childs in 1895, and sole proprietor in 1897.

This school is perhaps best known through its remarkable success in teaching typewriting, Mr. Griffin having begun using his method (which is simply to write on the keyboard without using the eyes to locate the keys) in 1889, and so successful was he in this work that his method has been adopted by the best business schools in the country. The graduates of the Springfield Business school may be numbered almost by thousands, and there are but few offices in this city which has not given employment to some of its former pupils.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The original act incorporating the city made no special provision for and only incidental mention of a fire department, but it was not that the framers of the act were unmindful of the importance of this branch of city government. Their first and highest aim was to secure the charter act itself with as little opposition as possible from those who were not in favor of the advanced form of government. But in the very next year the legislature made an important amendment to the charter and authorized the organization of a fire department on a basis suited to the commercial importance of the young city. From that time the fire department has been one of the established branches of government and one which has been of the greatest value to mercantile and manufacturing interests. Every citizen of Springfield feels a certain, special pride in the department, and hundreds of the older men of the present day in a reminiscent mood refer with satisfaction to the time when they "ran with the machine." Half a century and more ago every public spirited man felt it a duty to be in some manner identified with one of the fire companies, and regardless of membership it was a pleasant self-imposed task to take hold and help "man the brakes" on the old goose-neck when a fire was threatening the property of a fellow townsman.

The Springfield fire department traces its origin to the earliest years of the town's history, when the founders of the plantation ordered among themselves to keep a stout "leathern bucket" for use in case of fire. At the public expense a number of hooks

and ladders were made, and were stored in some place known to every man in the town. A little later a two-wheeled cart was provided to carry the ladders, and on each corner of the primitive "truck" was hung a leather bucket, ready for instant use. This equipment comprised the fire-fighting apparatus for more than the first century of the town's history, while the personnel of the department included every man who could "pass the bucket" along the line without spilling the water. During this period the Centre, as the thickly settled portion of the town was called, was a little scattered hamlet of houses and stores situated between the river on the west and the Town brook on the east, the latter being a small stream that flowed along under the hill, just east of Main street. In dry seasons the brook could not be relied on for a water supply, and to remedy the defect the inhabitants caused the bed of the stream to be deepened and widened, with here and there small reservoirs in which water was stored for fire purposes.

At length, however, the department of early days evolved from its primitive state to that of the possession of a fire engine, which was procured by subscription in 1792, and to which was given the name of "Lion." (It has been intimated that the town contributed to the purchase of the engine but the records give no light on the subject.) In 1794 a "Fire club" was organized to man the engine, and each member was required to keep in his house "two fire bags, made of skin," with which to remove goods from burning houses, and two buckets to be used in carrying water.

As near as can be determined from meagre and somewhat conflicting records the original members of the fire club were Thomas Dwight, William Smith, Joseph Williams, William Sheldon, William Pynchon, Luke Bliss, Zenas Parsons, Chauncey Brewer, Bezaleel Howard, James Byers, Samuel Lyman, Zebina Stebbins, John Hooker and George Bliss. Membership, however, in this old fire-fighting organization soon increased in numbers, and in the course of the next ten or a dozen years these names were added to the roll: Charles Stebbins, Jacob Sargeant, Daniel Lombard, Jacob Bliss, Alex. Bliss, Joshua Frost, George

Blake, Solomon Warriner, Rufus Sikes, Justin Lombard, William Ely, Israel Chapin, Quartus Stebbins, Samuel Osgood, Samuel Kingsley, Samuel Orne, Edward Pynchon, Thomas Stebbins, Festus Bliss, Edmund Dwight, Oliver B. Morris, Jonas Coolidge, John Chaffee, James Dwight, Robert Emory, John Ingersoll, Ebenezer Russell, jun., Thomas Sargeant, Henry Brewer, John Howard, Charles Howard, Justice Willard, Charles Stearns, John Worthington and Moses Bliss.

The Lion was an extraordinary piece of mechanical apparatus, but was one of the types of its period and in a way served a useful purpose. At first it was supplied with five feet of hose but under foreman Elijah Blake twenty-five feet more were added. For many years the machine was kept in a building on the old town hall site on State street, and after its period of service was ended the "tub" was removed to a location near the south end of Main street, where it was kept until 1840, the date of its last public appearance, although it practically went out of service in 1824.

Among the early foremen of the company known as the fire club there may be recalled the names of Festus Bliss, Oliver Collins, Eleazer Williams, Thomas Sargeant, William Ely, James Wells, Apollos Marsh and Elijah Blake, the latter having come into command of the town firemen in 1809, and afterward having been identified with the history of the department for many years. One of the last foremen under the old system was Drayton Perkins, whose reminiscences of early times in the fire department are exceedingly interesting.

In 1824, largely through the efforts of George Dwight, a new side-brake engine—the "Tiger"—was purchased, the funds therefor being raised almost wholly by subscription. The new engine was a decided improvement on the Lion, but when brought into competition with the machines owned by the Chicopee and Northampton people its men on the brakes were so thoroughly "washed" by the water thrown by the visitors that Springfield determined to have as good an engine as then was procurable. In the meantime the armory people had exchanged their old tubs for engines of improved types, one a Button,

called Eagle No. 1, and the other a Waterman, which was locally named Eagle No. 2, the latter being designed for use at the Watershops. This being done, the "Old Ocean" was sold to the Western railroad company, and soon gave way to the "New Ocean," the latter a Jeffers make hand engine.

In May, 1824, the town took up the question of purchasing a hand engine for use in the principal village—Springfield—and Justice Willard, Jonathan Dwight and Robert Emery were appointed a committee to consider the matter and make report. On May 10 the report was submitted, and recommended the purchase of a new suction engine and hose, but when the proposition was submitted to the meeting for approval it was promptly voted down, owing to certain jealousies (not rivalries) which then existed among the several sections of the town. Then a fund was raised for the purchase of the "Tiger," of which mention has been made. About the same time the Chicopee people, who had voted against the proposition to purchase an engine for Springfield (in which action they were supported by the Indian Orchard and Sixteen Acres people) secured an engine which they named "Torrent" and which still is owned in that city.

However, in 1826, the town of Springfield voted to appoint Elijah Blake, Thomas Sargeant, Joseph Pease, Joseph Hall, jun., and Walter Warriner a committee to consider the purchase of a first class suction engine with 100 feet of leading hose, and also suggested that there be provided a suitable place for keeping the apparatus, hooks and ladders, and a carriage for carrying the ladders to and from fires. This report was considered in open meeting, was accepted, and Joseph Hall, jr., Elijah Blake and George Colton were made a committee to purchase the engine. In 1827 it was voted to build an engine house, and Jonathan Dwight, jr., Albert Morgan, Joseph Carew, Alex. Bliss, Joseph Lombard, jr., Orange Chapin and William Childs were appointed a committee to supervise its construction.

In 1830 the legislature passed an "act to establish a fire department in the town of Springfield," and authorized the selectmen to appoint a chief and as many assistants and firewards, not exceeding fourteen, with as many enginemen, hosemen, and hook

and ladder men as they might deem necessary, not exceeding 42 men for each suction engine, 30 men for each common engine, 5 men for each hose carriage, and 25 men for each hook and ladder company. Under this act (which, however, was repealed in 1847) the fire department began to assume definite form, and its affairs thereafter were more directly under the charge of the town through its selectmen.

In 1831 Elijah Blake was appointed chief engineer, George Bliss 1st, Simon Sanborn 2d, and Edwin Booth 3d assistant engineer. All were reappointed in 1832, except Edwin Booth, who was succeeded by Samuel Woodworth, and in 1833 the officers were the same as in 1831. All were continued in their respective capacities until 1836, when Francis M. Carew became 3d assistant. In 1837 Chief Blake was again appointed but resigned and was succeeded by Ithamar Goodman. Mr. Carew was made 1st, and Charles Stearns 2d assistant engineer. In 1838 Mr. Blake was chief, Mr. Bliss 1st, Mr. Carew 2d, and Mr. Stearns 3d assistant engineer.

In 1833 the selectmen made a practical reorganization of the department and designated many new members for the several companies then in existence in the town, including those of Chicopee, which was a district of considerable importance and was regarded by its people a fair rival village to Springfield. In 1834 the legislature passed "An act concerning the appointment of enginemen," and the town during the next five years adopted several of its provisions, the result being more complete system in fire department affairs and better protection to the property of citizens.

On October 13, 1844, there occurred a disastrous fire at the corner of Main and Sanford streets which resulted in the destruction of five buildings and eight stores. On that occasion Chief Blake's department was given an opportunity to show its efficiency, and it is evident that the firemen acquitted themselves nobly, as the town afterward voted to pay $50 for "refreshments, etc.," furnished the men; and further it was voted "that Dr. James Swan and Charles Stearns be a committee to carry a vote of thanks to Jeremy Warriner, O. M. Alden and Roswell Shurtleff for refreshments furnished."

In 1845 the Springfield fire district was established, upon which the selectmen deeded to the district all the rights of the town in and to the engine house, fire apparatus and other supplies and equipment then in the district available for fire purposes. The district was formed within the limits of school district No. 8. At the same time the Chicopee fire district was formed, and in the same manner became possessed of the apparatus kept therein. In this year, and the next, the officers of the Springfield fire district were Cicero Simmons, chief engineer, Lucius Harthan, 1st assistant, James M. Thompson, 2d assistant, and Samuel S. Day, 3d assistant engineer.

From this time until 1852 the fire department appears not to have received the attention of the town authorities, and from the fact that it then was of a local character it undoubtedly was maintained by private contribution. In fact after the engine house and apparatus were transferred to the district, the control of the department appears to have been vested in that body alone, although no record of its transactions is found.

In 1853, according to Chief Brewer's first annual report, the companies comprising the "S. F. D." were Niagara engine company No. 1 with 70 members; Cataract engine company No. 2 with 48 members; Eagle engine company No. 1, with 75 members; Eagle company No. 2, with 66 members (the "two Eagles" were the property of the U. S. government, kept on the armory grounds for the especial protection of the federal buildings but through the kindness of the commandant they were at the call of the city in case of need); and Ocean hose company No. 1, with 30 members. The other department equipment comprised 13 reservoirs, conveniently located in different parts of the city; an engine house in Sanford street, valued at $2,000; an engine house and land in Stockbridge street, valued at $1,600; an engine house and land in the sixth ward, valued at $200; Niagara and Cataract engines, valued at $500 each; Niagara and Cataract hose carriages, valued at $50 each; and an old engine in the sixth ward, valued at $50.

Under the provisions of the amendatory act passed in 1853 the city council adopted an ordinance establishing a fire depart-

ment, to consist of a chief engineer and eight other engineers, and of as many enginemen, hydrant-men and hook and ladder men, to be divided into companies, as the number of engines and other fire apparatus should from time to time require. In accordance with this ordinance the department was thoroughly remodeled, and in 1854 a new hook and ladder company was added, taking the name of "American hook and ladder company" in 1855. In 1861 "Champion fire company" was organized at Indian Orchard, and during the same year the "Two Eagles" were ordered not to perform fire duty off the government lands. The order, however, was subsequently modified, and the city again was given the benefit of the companies. About the same time, owing to some disobedience of the rules, Cataract company was disbanded, and its reorganization, while eventually accomplished, was a slow process.

In 1862 the city purchased an Amoskeag steam engine, which was placed in the quarters formerly occupied by Niagara company, the latter being temporarily disorganized. The steamer company took the name of "Monitor" steam fire engine company, No. 1. In the same year Major Dyer, commandant at the armory, was furnished with two steam engines, both Amoskeags, and the Western railroad company purchased a similar engine to replace the "Ocean." At the annual parade held September 24, 1865, the "S. F. D." made a very creditable showing, with its splendid equipment of fire apparatus of modern type. The companies then "in line" were American hook and ladder company, Monitor steam fire engine company, the "Constitution" steam fire engine company (apparatus owned by the W. R. R. Co.), and the Union steam fire engine company (owned by the United States).

After this time the companies were renamed, as the next annual report of the chief engineer mentions the working force of the department as consisting of the Geo. Dwight steamer, the L. O. Hanson steamer, the Henry Gray steamer, the Waterspout steamer, the Champion hand engine and the hook and ladder company. In 1867 Alert hose company was organized, and was stationed on Worthington street, near Spring street. In 1868

the engine house and hose tower (now department headquarters) on Pynchon street, was erected and was first occupied by the steamer Dwight. In this year the working force of the department comprised three steamers, each with a hose carriage and a company of 25 men, one independent hose company, of 35 men, and one hand engine and hose carriage at Indian Orchard.

In 1870-71 the Dwight became Engine Co. No. 1; the Hanson became Engine Co. No. 2; the Henry Gray became Engine Co. No. 3; the new steamer bought in 1871, and stationed on Walnut street, became Engine Co. No. 4; Champion hand engine company acquired the old steamer purchased in 1862 and became Engine Co. No. 5; Alert hose became Hose Co. No. 1; the truck company on Sanford street became H. & L. Co. No. 1 (apparatus put in service in 1871), while Waterspout engine company remained as before, not being under the control of the city.

From this time, keeping even pace with the growth of the city in other directions, the fire department has been increased in working force and efficiency as occasion has required, and the city authorities have made liberal expenditures in favor of this branch of government. Since 1862 the department has evolved from the primitive equipment of an old-time volunteer department to that of a modern paid organization, yet in a way the volunteer character has ever been preserved and the bonds of firemanic brotherhood apparently are as strong as at any time in past years. The Springfield veteran firemen's association was organized February 23, 1895, and was incorporated April 10, 1897. Its objects are purely social and fraternal, and the annual muster is an occasion of general observance throughout the region. Its predecessor organization was the Firemen's mutual relief association, organized March 16, 1858, with a benevolent purpose in view. Its rolls were open to members of the fire department, each of whom contributed twenty-five cents membership fee and a like sum annually for the support of the relief fund.

In 1893 it was deemed best to place the affairs of the department in charge of a commission, and accordingly the first body thus constituted comprised Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dun-

leavy, William H. Haile, M. V. B. Edgerly and Olin Smith, five practical and thorough business men. At that time the board of engineers comprised A. P. Leshure, chief engineer, and J. A. Stevens, J. H. Gould, J. H. McCleary and H. W. Keyes, assistant engineers.

The apparatus turned over to the commission comprised that used by Engine Co. No. 1, located on Bond street, an Amoskeag steamer, put in service in 1871, and a two-horse hose carriage, put in service in 1885; Engine Co. No. 2, on Pynchon street, an Amoskeag steamer, put in service in 1873, and a one-horse hose wagon, put in service in 1885; Hose Co. No. 3, on Pynchon street, a two-horse hose wagon put in service in 1891; Engine Co. No. 4, on Walnut street, an Amoskeag steamer, put in service in 1862, and a one-horse hose wagon, put in service in 1885; Hose Co. No. 5, Indian Orchard, one hand and a one-horse hose carriage and a set of ladders; Hose Co. No. 6, located on South Main street, a two-horse hose wagon, put in service in 1887; Hose Co. No. 7, on Worthington street, a two-horse hose wagon, put in service in 1889; Engine Co. No. 8, at Winchester park, an Amoskeag steamer, put in service in 1891; Hose Co. No. 9, North Main street, a two-horse hose wagon, put in service in 1893; Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1, on Pynchon street, Babcock aerial ladder, put in service in 1888; Hook & Ladder Co. No. 2, at Winchester park, a Leverich truck, put in service in 1871; Hook & Ladder Co. No. 3, North Main street, a Leverich truck, put in service in 1875.

Under the control of the commissioners, although the advisability of the board was at first questioned, the Springfield fire department has attained its highest degree of efficiency, and today it ranks with the best equipped, officered and managed fire departments in the state. During the last ten years the regular working force has been almost doubled, and under the prudent management of the commissioners the city has made liberal appropriations for extending the service of the department, the erection of new buildings and stations and for the purchase of new and improved apparatus. A glance at the last "inventory" of property appertaining to the department shows a pres-

ent total value of all property of $305,755, divided as follows: Land, $47,330; buildings, $125,375; equipment, $133,050. The expenses of the department for the current year 1900 amounted to the sum of $99,500.

The following is a complete list of the apparatus: Five steam fire engines with accompanying hose wagons; one steam fire engine in reserve; 2 chemical engines; 3 chemical and hose combination wagons; 3 hose wagons; one water tower; 2 aerial ladder trucks; 2 ladder trucks; one ladder truck in reserve; one hose reel stored at headquarters; one hose reel stored at Indian Orchard; one hose reel located near Ludlow line; one hose wagon at Forest park; one trolley transportation car for transporting engines to the hill and suburbs of the city; supply wagons and sleighs for each company.

Chief Engineers, S. F. D. (under the charter).—James D. Brewer, 1852-53; George Ensworth, 1854; Levi W. Park, 1855; George Dwight, 1856-59; Hosea C. Lombard, 1860; L. O. Hanson, 1861; Joseph Marsh, 1862; Levi O. Hanson, 1863-64; George Dwight, 1865; L. H. Powers, 1866-67; W. W. Day, 1868; L. H. Powers, 1869; A. P. Leshure, 1870; L. H. Powers, 1871; Hosea C. Lombard, 1872-73; A. P. Leshure, 1874-93; William J. Littlefield, 1894-1901.

Fire Commissioners

1894—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, M. V. B. Edgerly, Olin H. Smith.

1895—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, M. V. B. Edgerly, Walter P. Goodenough.

1896—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, James A. Bill, jr., Henry S. Dickinson.

1897—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, James A. Bill, jr., Charles C. Lewis.

1898—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, Homer G. Gilmore, Charles C. Lewis.

1899—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, Homer G. Gilmore, Franklin A. Latimer, jr.

1900—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, William H. Haile, Homer G. Gilmore, Julius F. Carman.

1901—Edward P. Chapin, James E. Dunleavy, Homer G. Gilmore, Henry L. Hines, William W. Tapley.

THE CITY WATER SUPPLY

Previous to 1843 the town of Springfield had no water supply for domestic purposes other than that furnished by the house-lot wells of property owners, and an occasional town pump. For fire protection that part of the town bordering on the Connecticut had recourse to the river, but the town brook was the chief dependence for many years. In the thickly-settled localities on the hill a series of storage wells were constructed, but their water was rarely used for any other than fire purposes.

In the summer of 1843 Charles Stearns, who is still remembered as one of the most enterprising men of the town in his time, suggested the propriety of establishing a system of water works, but those whom he sought to interest in the undertaking were doubtful of the success of the venture, hence gave little encouragement and no financial aid to the project. The worthy promoter, however, was not discouraged by the lack of interest shown by his fellow townsmen, and resolved to "go it alone" in constructing a general water system for the business section of the town. He secured the necessary permission from the selectmen, and in August, 1843, began the work of laying wooden main pipes—pump logs—from what is known as the Van Horn reservoir through the streets to the Western railroad depot and down Main to Bliss street, supplying dwellings, stores, hotels and other buildings, to the number of about 150, with good wholesome water at moderate cost. Year after year he extended the service until nearly all the principal streets in the business center were supplied, and he even essayed to furnish water for fire protection purposes.

Mr. Stearns' water works plant, however crude and imperfect it may have been at the time, was a great benefit to the people of the town. As an investment his scheme was successful, and when the business interests of the town called for an improved system local capital was ready to take stock in the proposed company. In February, 1848, an application was made

to the legislature for an act incorporating the Springfield Aqueduct company, the petition therefor bearing the signatures of eighty-three prominent citizens. In the meantime a strong opposition to the plan had arisen and the incorporating act was delayed several months. On April 14, in town meeting the inhabitants voted to approve the measure, but when the opposition became pronounced an attempt was made to nullify the former action and secure a vote of disapproval. This subject came up for action at a meeting held April 24, but instead of a vote on the main question the electors voted an indefinite postponement of further action. This was a substantial victory for the advocates of the water works, and on May 10 the bill became a law and the Springfield aqueduct company was duly incorporated, Charles Stearns, Festus Stebbins, George Hastings, "and their associates" being named as incorporators.

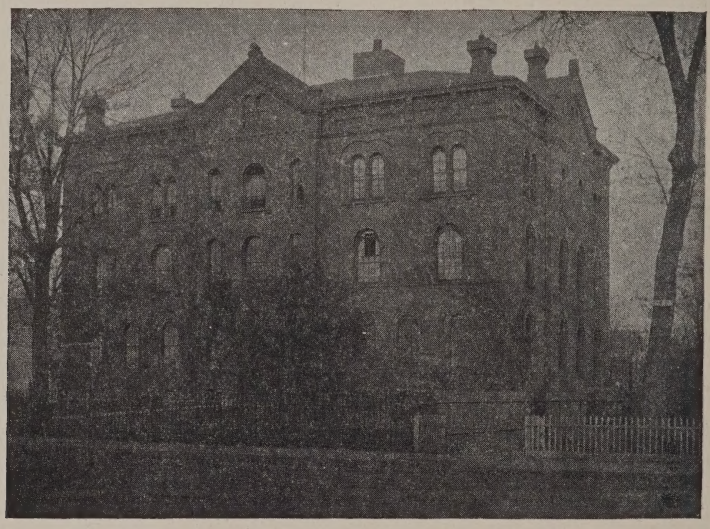
Upon its organization the company succeeded to the property and interests formerly owned by Mr. Stearns and at once became one of the prominent public improvement enterprises of the town. As the water service was extended to meet the requirements of the public the capital of the company was increased until 1867, when the outstanding stock amounted to $137,800. The reservoir capacity was enlarged and new cement-lined pipes replaced the old pump logs. The company kept faith with its promises and provided the town with a good supply of water for both domestic and fire purposes, yet along about 1860 there arose a feeling in favor of city water works or municipal ownership in the system then being operated. This feeling is said to have arisen in part from the fact that the city at that time was increasing rapidly in population and commercial importance and the fear that the actual capacity of the works then in use was not sufficient on extraordinary occasions. About this time the city authorities had sunk a well for fire purposes at the intersection of State and Stebbins streets, and it was proposed to construct a system of wells, to connect them by pipes and convey their waters to the lower part of the city for general use. This plan seemed practical and a committee was appointed to make a thorough investigation and report its conclusions to the city council.

This specially constituted commission comprised Mayor Harris, Alderman Hitchcock and Councilmen Leonard, Noyes and Woodman. They reported a feasible plan under the well system, and the result was in the formation of the City aqueduct company, with D. L. Harris, R. A. Chapman, G. R. Townsley and B. B. Tyler as its proprietors. This company took a supply of water from wells on the hill and conveyed it through pipes into the business sections of the city; but there soon arose the cry that the wells were draining the private wells in their locality, and also that trees and all vegetation were threatened by the removal of their natural nourishment. It was then suggested that the city should become owner of the water works plants and also that a new and ample supply should be found without danger to private interests. This matter was the subject of agitation for several years[1], and finally, in 1872, an act of the legislature authorized a million dollar bond issue for the purpose of establishing an adequate water system, with a source of supply either in the Connecticut or the Chicopee river. The act was approved May 6, 1872, and was accepted by the people on May 28 following.

The first board of water commissioners appointed under the act comprised Horace Smith, Daniel L. Harris, A. D. Briggs, Samuel W. Porter and George C. Fisk, and under their supervision the difficult work of inaugurating the new system was begun. The franchise and interests of the old Springfield aque-

[1]In a special communication to the city council in August, 1871, Mayor Smith said: "In 1860 this subject was brought before the council, and a committee was appointed to make the necessary investigations. The report of the committee contained estimates of the cost of obtaining a supply from the Connecticut river and other sources. No steps, however, were taken toward carrying into effect either of the suggestions of the committee, and the matter has been suffered to rest until now. The population and business of the city are steadily increasing, and the demand for a sufficient supply of water is increasing in more than a corresponding ratio. There is a considerable portion of the city that the aqueduct company, though making the most of their facilities, cannot reach, and there is a very large amount of property without any adequate protection from destruction by fire." Agreeable to the suggestions of the mayor, the board of aldermen, on August 22, designated Messrs. Sibley, Dickinson and Hawkins as members of a joint special commission to make inquiry as to the most feasible plan of supplying the city with water. On August 28 the common council selected as members of the commission above described Messrs. Howard, Bradley, Newell and Holt.

duct company, and also of the City aqueduct company, were purchased, and their systems were united, and a new temporary source of supply was established, first by taking water from Garden brook and later by erecting a pumping station on the bank of the Connecticut at Brightwood. This, however, was not more than a temporary expedient and as soon as the necessary preliminary investigations could be concluded, and a proper reservoir location could be found, the commissioners purchased a little more than 800 acres of land in Ludlow, from which locality the city has since derived its greatest supply of water.



Oak Street School, Springfield

The city still owns the old sources of supply which were acquired from the aqueduct companies, the extensive works in Ludlow constructed in 1873-75, the works at Belchertown, which were constructed in 1890-91, and the additional works at Ludlow, constructed in 1893-94. The aggregate storage capacity of all works is 2,295,792,000 gallons of water; mode of supply, gravitation.

The city water system has cost Springfield the total sum of $2,128,559.56, of which amount interest bearing bonds are out-

standing in the sum of $1,500,000. According to the last annual report of the superintendent of water works, there are now in use 144.64 miles of supply and distribution mains, while the total number of connections in use is 9,764.

The following table, taken from the last commissioners' report, shows the total amount of water rates charged and collected in each year since 1885:

Year	Water Rates Charged (*During the year, only*)		Water Rates Collected	
	Totals	Increase	Totals	Increase
1885	$93,421 60	.....	$90,848 05	.....
1886	100,537 77	$7,116 17	97,298 78	$6,450 73
1887	108,140 94	7,603 17	105,451 52	8,152 74
1888	115,146 35	7,005 41	112,581 21	7,129 69
1889	126,220 72	11,074 37	122,541 52	9,960 31
1890*	133,553 28*	7,332 56	129,913 27*	7,371 75
1891	140,604 85	7,051 57	136,985 11	7,071 84
1892	150,515 67	9,910 82	146,349 09	9,363 98
1893	164,894 65	14,378 98	160,936 78	14,587 69
1894	167,376 11	2,481 46	162,769 71	1,832 93
1895	182,357 49	14,981 38	178,421 15	15,651 44
1896	194,069 28	11,711 79	189,373 75	10,952 60
1897	196,818 72	2,749 44	192,132 58	2,758 83
1898	209,183 12	12,364 40	201,710 66	9,578 08
1889	220,673 14	11,490 02	213,061 24	11,350 58
1900	225,798 96	5,125 82	218,741 57	5,680 33

The expense of maintenance in 1900 was $24,024.97.

Water Commissioners.

Under the act of 1872 provision was made for a water commission of five members. In 1873 the number was reduced to four members. By an act passed in 1880 the board was abolished, and it was provided that from and after February 1 the water commission of the city should comprise the mayor, *ex officio*, and two citizens, the latter to be elected by the city council, and to hold office two years after the first appointments. One commissioner is chosen each year.

*Amounts for 1890 estimated at $20,000 less than actual totals for that year, which includes 15 months water rates—instead of 12—due to change of time in rendering the semi-annual bills.

1872-73[1]—Horace Smith, Daniel L. Harris, A. D. Briggs, Samuel W. Porter, George Fisk.

1874—Charles O. Chapin, A. D. Briggs, George C. Fisk, Daniel L. Harris, Samuel W. Porter.

1875-76—Charles O. Chapin, Lawson Sibley, Samuel W. Porter.

1877-80—Charles O. Chapin, Samuel W. Porter, N. W. Talcott.

1881-89—The Mayor, Hiram Q. Sanderson, Noyes W. Fisk.

1890-92—The Mayor, Hiram Q. Sanderson, Charles L. Goodhue.

1893—The Mayor, Charles L. Goodhue, Richard F. Hawkins.

1894-1901—The Mayor, Charles L. Goodhue, James F. Bidwell.

THE ALMSHOUSE

From the time of founding the colony at Agawam the authorities of the town and subsequent city have always made special provision for the support of the indigent poor. In the early history of the town applicants for help were few, as it was the policy of the authorities to rid the settlement of all unworthy persons; but did one of their own townsmen by misfortune come to want assistance was immediately and freely extended.

From the time overseers of the poor were first elected the care of unfortunate persons was entrusted to them, and the applicants generally were placed with some worthy townsman until the public was relieved of their support. This custom prevailed until 1753, when the town voted down a proposition to build an almshouse, and instead thereof directed the selectmen to hire a house and land where public charges could be maintained. In 1798 it was proposed to unite Springfield with other towns and establish a common poor house, but this plan met with disapproval and Springfield voted to support its own poor independent of West Springfield, Longmeadow and Ludlow.

In 1801 it was voted to "purchase a place for a poor house," and Jonathan Dwight, William Pynchon, George Bliss, William

[1]The commission as constituted in 1872-73 is not mentioned in the published city register.

Ely and John Hooker were appointed a committee to carry out the will of the inhabitants. In 1802 the committee purchased from the heirs of John Worthington the property formerly owned by Ebenezer Hitchcock, paying therefor $660.67. In 1826 it was voted to build a new almshouse on the land, and to erect in connection therewith a workhouse, but as the county then was contemplating the erection of a house of correction, the idea was abandoned, and in 1827 the almshouse alone was built, at a cost of $3,000. In 1834 the property was sold and the town purchased the Benjamin Brown farm of 43 acres, paying $3,000 for the land and erecting new buildings at an additional cost of $5,500. In subsequent years the almshouse property was the frequent subject of attention on the part of the authorities. The present buildings were erected in 1873, and since that year the city's poor have been given considerate attention by a liberal board of overseers. The property is located on the Boston road, about two miles east of court square.

During the year ending November 30, 1900, the city expended $47,453 for the support of the indigent poor, and the additional sum of $1,932.30 for the maintenance of an isolation hospital. During the year 381 persons were cared for. One of the recent adjuncts of the institution is the wayfarer's lodge, where work is provided and shelter given to unemployed persons and transient applicants for assistance.

In Springfield the affairs of the almshouse are in charge of the overseers of the poor, who are appointed by the city council; and of the board thus constituted the mayor and the city physician are *ex officio* members.

THE CITY PARKS

Previous to the creation of the park commission, in pursuance of the act of 1882, neither the city authorities nor the people of Springfield had given much thought to the subject of parks, or of a single large place of public resort where business cares might be laid aside for rest and quiet and comfort in nature's inviting fields. In 1821, when certain enterprising citizens of the principal village gave land for the court house,

they also donated to the public about one acre for use as a public square, or park, to be enjoyed by all the people in common. Later on, as the town continued to grow in population, it became necessary to lay out public streets in localities formerly occupied for farming purposes, and as the old roads of earlier years had been established to suit the convenience of owners rather than with regard to regularity, the systematic survey of street lines naturally created numerous small angular parcels at points of intersection, which eventually were transformed into delightful little parks; and they were named in allusion to whomsoever had donated the land for park purposes or had beautified the same at personal expense, or who had in some manner been prominently identified with the locality.

In addition to the magnificent tract of land known as Forest park, the city owns or controls for park purposes twenty-eight other parcels, with an aggregate area of 22.52 acres, known and located as follows:

Benton lawn, State street, 3.55 acres in extent (this beautiful park tract almost in the heart of the city was the result of joint action by the municipal authorities and the commandant at the United States arsenal, Colonel J. G. Benton, whose efforts in the work endeared him to every loyal citizen); Calhoun square, Chestnut street, 2.4 acres, named in honor of the late William B. Calhoun; Carew triangle, North Main street, .08 of an acre, named in allusion to the late Francis M. Carew; City Hall square, Pynchon street, .16 of an acre; Clarendon fountain, Clarendon street, .10 of an acre, beautified and provided with a drinking fountain by John D. and W. H. McKnight, and donated to the public; Concord terrace, Concord street, .15 of an acre; Court square,[1] Main street, .93 of an acre (the Wesson fountain, the gift of Daniel B. Wesson, was placed on the Main street front of the square in 1884. Many years ago Charles Merriam gave two drinking fountains for use on the square, and in 1841 James Byers erected a handsome marble fountain in which the water fell in three consecutive basins); Dartmouth fountain, Dart-

[1]Court Square became city property by an act of the legislature passed in 1885.

mouth street, .15 of an acre; Dartmouth terrace, end of Dartmouth street, .39 of an acre; Dorchester rest, Dorchester street, .11 of an acre; Gunn square, Westford avenue, .80 of an acre; Kenwood terrace, Belmont avenue, .39 of an acre; Kibbe fountain, Federal street, .07 of an acre; Lafayette rest, end of Lafayette street, .10 of an acre; Magnolia terrace, Magnolia terrace, .29 of an acre; Maplewood terrace, Maplewood terrace, .76 of an acre; McKnight glen, Ingersoll grove, 6 acres; McKnight triangle, Bay street, .62 of an acre, improved and donated by John D. and W. H. McKnight; Merrick terrace, State street, .55 of an acre; Mill street fountain, Mill street, .05 of an acre; Mill river

Winchester Park and Buckingham School

rest, Mill street, .08 of an acre; Public lawn, Main street, .53 of an acre; Sargeant's rest, North Main street, .24 of an acre; Stearns' square, Bridge street, .46 of an acre (donated to the public about 1845 by and named in honor of the late Charles Stearns); Tapley playground, Sherman street, 1.07 acres; the levee, foot of Elm street, .80 of an acre; Thompson triangle, St. James avenue, 1.06 acres; Winchester triangle, State street, .62 of an acre (named in honor of the late Charles A. Winchester).

Before the park commission was established these tracts were under the supervision of committees of the city legislative bodies

and the care they received was such as could be given by the employees of the department, except as liberal citizens improved and beautified them; but when the commission was created a new order of things was established, and the entire people of the city proper were awakened to an earnest interest in a general park proposition.

Fortunately, the original park commission comprised five of Springfield's progressive, public-spirited citizens—Daniel J. Marsh, John Olmsted, Orick H. Greenleaf, Walter H. Wesson and John D. McKnight, whose names must be forever associated with the measures which led to the establishment of what is now known as Forest park, one of the most beautiful and attractive home resorts in the state. Yet this great end was not attained without difficulties and personal sacrifices and some adverse criticism, for the spirit of opposition is ever manifest in measures proposed for the public good. For several years prior to the passage of the act there had been felt the need of a public park, and while such had been considered in local official circles, the most approved method of accomplishing that end had not been suggested. The act of 1882, general in its character and scope, opened the way and "made straight the path" for that element of the people who desired the benefits of a park resort; but when the end was finally reached the lesser parks of the city were not in any way neglected, and they have since received the same careful attention as the larger and more popular resort. In establishing the wide reputation of Springfield as a "city of homes" the public parks have played a prominent part.

Forest Park—On September 29, 1883, the park commissioners completed their official organization by electing John Olmsted chairman, and Walter H. Wesson clerk. At that time neither the commissioners themselves nor any other persons in authority had proposed a definite plan for a city park, yet dozens of suggestions had been set afloat through the medium of the press and the utterances of those who assumed to know the wants of the city. Having no funds at their disposal, the commissioners could accomplish little except a supervisory control over the small parks.

The Pavilion at Forest Park Entrance

In his inaugural address in the year mentioned Mayor Phillips said: "I should be glad if, during the current year, some steps could be taken toward the inauguration of a system of public parks. Nature has been wonderfully lavish with our beautiful city, and I have only to point to the possibilities which might result from even a slight expenditure along the east bank of our river at almost any point."

For some time previous to this there had existed a strong sentiment in favor of a public park on the bank of the Connecticut, and when the commission came into life a careful examination of the premises was made. It was learned that there was an available tract of land on the river bank between Bridge and Howard streets, which, in the opinion of the commissioners, could be transformed into a beautiful park, 100 feet wide and about 2,000 feet long, at an expense of about $125,000. It was then hoped that the railroad company, being greatly benefited by the improvement, would take an interest in the matter and bear a portion of the cost, and some negotiations were had with that end in view.

While awaiting some action on the part of the railroad company, and at the same time casting about in every direction for a desirable location, in October, 1884, the commissioners were agreeably surprised by the magnanimous offer of one of their own number—Orick H. Greenleaf—who proposed to present the tract of land known as "Forest park" for the purposes for which the commission was constituted, and to convey the same to the city free of any cost. This splendid offer was made in perfect good faith and was followed by a deed of conveyance, vesting title in the city to 65.08 acres of land located south of Sumner avenue and about one and one-half miles south of court square. The land was accepted, and in the same year the commissioners purchased from Linus Dickinson, for $2,200, a tract of 17.11 acres, and from William L. Dickinson, for $1,000, a tract of 7.99 acres, both adjoining the Greenleaf lands. Thus at the end of 1884 Forest park comprised 90.18 acres of land of as good quality and as well situated as could be desired for that purpose.

There were no further acquisitions of land for the park for several years, and the annual appropriations were used in devel-

oping and improving that which had previously come into possession of the city. Between 1884 and 1890 the city fathers appropriated the total sum of $46,300 for park improvements, the greater portion of which was expended in Forest park while the smaller tracts were not in any manner neglected. In 1889 the county contributed $500 to the park fund. To enumerate the multitude of improvements made during this five-year period would require more space than is at our command, and would add little of interest to our narrative. The immediate work of improvement was placed under charge of Justin Sackett, a contractor of Springfield, and in the most admirable and satisfactory manner he performed every duty committed to his care.

The year 1890 constituted an eventful period in the history of the park. By this time the people of the entire city had become thoroughly interested in the project and all opposing elements had been subdued in the general approval of what had been accomplished. In this year the park was brought nearer to the heart of the city by the completion of the electric street railway, and whereas the tract was previously reached only at considerable inconvenience and expense of time and money, the opening of the "trolley road" afforded ready access to the park as a popular resort for all Springfield.

In the same year the city was made the recipient of still greater benefactions at the hands of generous citizens. First, John Olmsted, former commissioner, and commissioners McKnight, Greenleaf, Wesson and Kirkham purchased at their own expense a tract of nearly fifty acres and conveyed the same gratis to the city. Then followed the magnificent and characteristic gift of Everett H. Barney, who from the outset had taken a commendable interest in the park movement, yet who had entered into the active councils of the commissioners in this year.

Mr. Barney gave to the city for the park enterprise his elegant homestead property, comprising 104.56 acres of land, reserving to himself only a life occupancy of the Barney residence. But this was not all. In 1892 he erected the splendid granite "Memorial and Lookout," also caused to be built the beautiful white marble monument, "Faith, Hope and Charity," which

attracts admiring attention from all who chance to pass down the Long Hill road which borders the improved portion of the park on the west. More than this, Mr. Barney has given other valuable lands, and has devoted his time and contributed liberally of his means to park improvements independent, and with the full approval, of the other commissioners, until the western limits of the tract have become a perfect garden of beauty—an Eden of horticultural art.

In 1890 the city appropriated $13,000 for park maintenance and improvement and $14,000 for the purchase of the property of the Dickinson estate, the latter adding 89.70 acres to the lands of the park tract. In the same year also, President Marsh, of the commission, purchased at his own expense and donated one and one-half acres of land, making the total area 334.33 acres. In 1891 Mr. Greenleaf bought and gave to the park 4.12 acres, this being his third contribution in land for the good of the city's people. His work always was unselfish and earnest. His was the original gift for the park, and by his generosity and public-spiritedness it was made possible. He died May 14, 1896, but his good works are fondly remembered by all loyal citizens.

In 1892 six more parcels, aggregating 61.21 acres were added to the park lands by these donors: Theodore A. Havemyer, 3.68 acres; Ida M. Southworth, 6.33 acres; Marvin Chapin, 10.50 acres; Moses Field, 7.20 acres; Ella F. Allen, 7.20 acres; Everett H. Barney, 26.29 acres. The park now aggregated 399.66 acres of land.

Still further acquisitions of land were made in 1894, by gift and by purchase as follows: Helen Spring, 1.74 acres; Celia C. Merriam, 1.74 acres; Everett H. Barney, 22.02 and 4.24 acres in separate donations; Marvin Kirkland, 3 acres; and the William Barry tract of 1.86 acres which was acquired by purchase and the process of law, at a cost of $800.

In 1896 five more parcels were secured, four by gift and one by purchase. The donors of the year were John B. Stebbins, 4.15 acres; George Nye, 4.15 acres; Elisha Gunn, 4.15 acres; Everett Barney, 17.26 acres. The fifth parcel, 7.12 acres, was purchased from the sisters of St. Joseph, at an ultimate cost to the city of $18,921.11.

Within its present boundaries Forest park comprises 463.24 acres of land. It has been made up of 29 separate parcels, five of which were purchased by the commissioners in their official capacity, while the 24 other parcels were donated by interested individual citizens. It cannot be said that the city authorities have been miserly, or even conservative, in their appropriations for park purposes, as the following table will give direct contradiction to such an assertion. During the seventeen years of the history of the park the city has raised moneys for park maintenance and improvement as follows: 1884, $9,500; 1885, $6,300; 1886, $4,000; 1887, $6,500; 1888, $12,000; 1889, $8,000, and $500 from the county; 1890, $13,000; 1891, $18,000; 1892, $18,500; 1893, $20,000; 1894, $20,000; 1895, $22,500; 1896, $25,000; 1897, $28,050; 1898, $28,000; 1899, $28,000; 1900, $25,000.

The Park Commissioners.

The city park commissioners have always performed the duties of office with great care and zeal. They have given their time and service frequently at the sacrifice of personal interests and comfort. That their work has been well done no person will care to dispute, and there never has been raised against their official action so much as a breath of suspicion. The personnel of the first board is given in a preceding paragraph, but of the first members who comprised that body only one—Daniel J. Marsh is now in office. The first president was John Olmsted, who retired from the board in 1886, upon which Mr. Marsh became president and has so continued to the present time. Walter H. Wesson served as clerk until 1886, when he was succeeded by Frederick Harris, who served until 1891. William F. Callender was then chosen clerk and continued until 1896, when he retired from the board, and was followed in office by Azel F. Packard, who served two years. The next clerk was Charles E. Ladd, who still performs the duties of that office, although not now a member of the commission.

The park commissioners have been as follows: John Olmsted, 1883-March 1, 1886; Daniel J. Marsh, 1883-still in office; Orick H. Greenleaf, 1883-died March 14, 1896; Walter H. Wesson, 1883-Jan. 11, 1890; John D. McKnight, 1883-died Dec. 20,

1890; John E. Taylor, 1886-April 21, 1892; Frederick Harris, 1889-Jan. 2, 1891; Everett H. Barney, 1890-still in office; William F. Callender, 1891-May 1, 1896; James Kirkham, 1892-died Feb. 8, 1893; Azel A. Packard, 1896-May 1, 1898; Edward S. Bradford, 1893-Dec. 1, 1899; Charles E. Ladd, 1896-1901, now park superintendent; Robert O. Morris, 1898-1901; Nathan D. Bill, 1899-still in office; William E. Wright, 1901-still in office; Herman Buchholz, 1901-still in office.

LIBRARIES

Naturally, in a city whose people can establish and maintain one of the finest and most complete library institutions in the country, much interest attaches to all that can be said concerning the subject of libraries. Still, the library association of the city had a beginning as humble and almost as primitive as that of any other of its institutions, and it was in fact the outgrowth of older literary societies, one of which was founded in the town more than three-quarters of a century ago.

Sometime during the closing years of the eighteenth century a number of interested citizens of the town associated together and founded what was known as the Springfield library company, which, according to meagre traces of its history, possessed a few hundred volumes of books, chiefly devoted to subjects of history, voyages, travels and poetry, with some attempt at a collection relating to divinity and ethical topics, biography (chiefly European) and also a few miscellaneous works. But just when and how the library company came into existence and the causes of its dissolution, no person now assumes to state.

The second library was opened by the Franklin library association, undoubtedly so named in allusion to Benjamin Franklin, who then had achieved more than national fame in the world of science. The patrons and founders of the association were chiefly persons connected with the U. S. armory, and its existence was continued until 1844, when it was merged in the Young Men's institute, the latter having been established in the preceding year.

Next in the order of formation was the Hampden Mechanics' association, organized in January 1824, for the commendable

purpose of maintaining a public library for the benefit of its members, and also for the purpose of establishing an evening school for mechanics and apprentices. The association also provided for lecture courses for the general welfare. It was a worthy organization and was productive of much good in the town for a quarter of a century. Its collection of books was transferred to the Young Men's institute in 1845, and four years later the association passed out of existence. The members, however, were not unprovided for, as the transfer was made on condition that they should have free access to the library and reading rooms of the institute for all time. In 1834 the "Apprentices' library," as it was commonly known, contained 627 volumes.

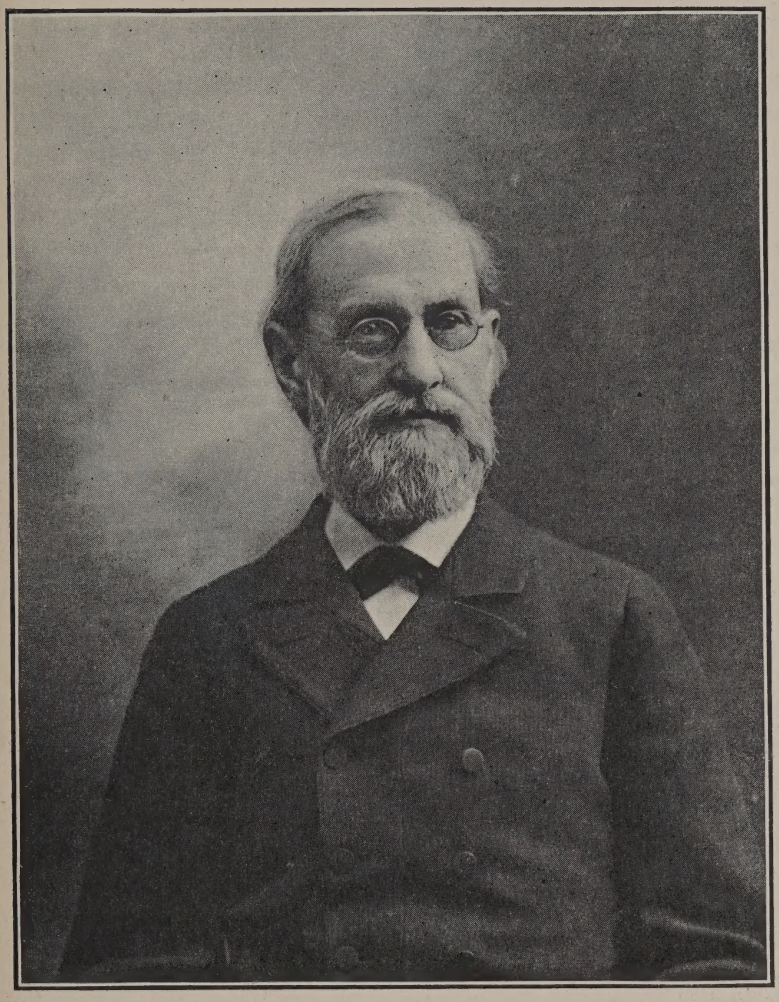
The Young Men's institute, which seems to have absorbed the earlier literary societies of the town, was founded in 1843 and was an improvement on all its predecessor bodies. It acquired an excellent local reputation and a large membership, receiving material support from prominent citizens. Its courses of lectures were of more advanced character than was before attempted, and its weekly debates attracted much attention by reason of the forensic efforts of its orators, particularly the young "limbs of the law," who were pursuing their studies in the village; and if local tradition be true these meetings were not without interest among the older professional men, who not only found their way into the weekly gatherings, but who took part in the discussions and occasionally were "worsted" by their younger brethren.

In 1854, after the Young Men's institute had been in operation about ten years, a similar organization under the name of the Young Men's literary association was brought into existence, but the causes which led to its organization are not now clearly apparent. Its character and objects were the same as those of the older society, and it is believed that the new association was created to stimulate discussion of general topics in open debating contests, and also to interest a new element of citizenship in literary work. However this may have been we know not, but the ultimate result of the two societies was a consolidation of interests and a general request, in 1855, supported by a petition with

1,200 signers, upon the new municipal government for an appropriation of $2,000 for the establishment of a city library. The petition and request were referred to committees and in due season a favorable report was made, yet the city council failed to act, setting forth as its chief reason that the expenditure would be unwise in view of the contemplated erection of a city hall at great cost to taxpayers.

"Disappointed in this direction," said the late Dr. Rice in one of his articles on library history, "the friends of the enterprise determined to make a vigorous effort for the establishment of a public library by means of a voluntary association and by seeking private subscriptions. For this purpose the City Library association was organized, November 27, 1857. The members of the two existing organizations, the Springfield institute and the Young Men's literary association, united in the new enterprise, and their small libraries were made over to the City Library association. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions among the citizens, a considerable sum was raised, and accessions were made to the library by donations of books. In 1859 Mayor Calhoun again brought the subject to the notice of the city government and recommended an appropriation to the association, claiming 'that in view of the benefits of a public library as the fruitful source, not of the ordinary and acknowledged blessings of intelligence merely, but of an efficient and all-pervading economy,' it would be literally an 'institution of saving.' But in view probably of the 'heavy indebtedness of the city,' no action was had on this recommendation. During the year, however, the library was removed to rooms in the city hall with the approval of the mayor and the committee on city property. The same year the association established as an adjunct in its work a museum of art and natural history."

"Simultaneously with the occupancy of these rooms, commenced an earnest and persistent effort to increase the resources of the association. A subscription of about $8,000 was raised, and in the following year a fair was held by the ladies for the benefit of the enterprise, which resulted in adding about $1,800 to its funds. A reference theological department was com-



Dr. William Rice

menced, and donations were secured in money and books from the various religious denominations. The agricultural department was largely increased by the addition of the Hampden agricultural library. Courses of lectures were likewise given which for several years resulted in a considerable income. No funds, however, were received from the city until 1864, and no help except the room rent, fuel and lights'' furnished after the removal of the library to the city hall in 1859.

''In 1864 the city began making appropriations for the library. It then contained 17,000 volumes and at least $45,000 had been contributed to the funds of the association. The rooms in the city hall now were filled to overflowing, and it was felt that provision must be made for its permanent accommodation and continued growth. The association was therefore reorganized under a new charter which constituted it a corporation for the purpose of 'establishing and maintaining a social library and a museum of natural history and art for the diffusion of knowledge and the promotion of intellectual improvement in the city of Springfield.' With this reorganization an effort was made by the association to secure funds for a library building, which resulted in the erection of the present library on the site donated by George Bliss.''

The City Library association, the history of which Dr. Rice has briefly traced in preceding paragraphs, was an institution of far more than minor importance. It was the union of interests which formerly had existed in two similar societies, and embodied the best elements of both. Its constitution and by-laws were original, and were readily adopted by a strong membership. The persons who subscribed their names to the original instrument were as follows: Ariel Parish, H. M. Dickinson, J. W. Jenkins, Wm. H. Smith, Lewis A. Tift, T. D. Bridgman, Charles M. Lee, Henry S. Lee, Oliver Marsh, Justus W. Grant, F. H. Fuller, Daniel J. Marsh, Henry A. Chapin, W. H. Ellis, Wm. H. Haile, Edwin L. Knight, Elisha Morgan, Francis Norton, George Walker, Robert Crossett, Osmond Tiffany, Charles Marsh, J. S. McElwain, F. B. Bacon, Thomas Atchison, J. F. Moseley, C. S. Hurlbut, A. N. Merrick, Frederick Bill, Augustus E. Pease,

Theodore A. Belknap, H. M. Morehouse, Wm. S. Shurtleff, E. B. Vinton, James M. Buzzell, James M. Arnold, Henry Tracy, W. G. Chamberlain, J. W. Preston, W. Emerson, George T. Bond, George W. Winchester, Albert Holt.

On the formal organization of the association these officers were chosen for the first year: President, Charles Marsh; vice-president, Charles O. Chapin; clerk and secretary, Lewis A. Tift; treasurer, Wm. H. Smith. The subsequent presidents were Charles Marsh, 1858; Charles Merriam, 1859; John L. King, 1860-64. The vice-presidents after the first year were A. N. Merrick, 1858; Charles Marsh, 1859; George Merriam, 1860-63; Daniel L. Harris, 1864. The secretaries were Lewis A. Tift, 1858-59; Osmond Tiffany, 1860-61; William Rice, 1862-64. The treasurers were C. S. Hurlbut, 1858; Henry S. Lee, 1859; Julius H. Appleton, 1860-61; James D. Safford, 1862-64.

The City Library association of Springfield, the present organization, was incorporated by an act of the legislature passed April 8, 1864, and was authorized to own and hold real estate not exceeding $150,000 in value (this amount was afterward increased). The corporators named in the act were John L. King, Chester W. Chapin, George Bliss, James M. Thompson, Ephraim W. Bond and Homer Foot. Under the provisions of the act the city was authorized to make appropriations for the benefit of the library so long as the association "allowed the inhabitants of the city free access to the library at reasonable hours."

But it was not this action that led to the establishment of the library in its present location. The need of more commodious quarters had long been felt and for several years the library had been recognized as one of the most valuable auxiliary educational institutions of the city. Committees of the old society had frequently urged the importance of more ample space for books and reading rooms, but under the conditions then existing a way out of the dilemma had not been suggested and made clear from any authentic source. Various expedients were recommended, yet none met the requirements of the occasion.

In this emergency it was reported that George Bliss (of honored memory and worthy fame, a scion of the old substantial

City Library and Art Museum

families of Springfield) had offered to give his home property for the purpose of a library site, and as the nucleus of a building fund was willing to contribute $10,000 in addition to the land. Then the necessary legislative authority was invoked, the bill was drawn, presented, and enacted into a law, and the city library association became a body corporate for the purposes indicated in its charter.

According to the regulations of the association, the officers thereof were to be a president, vice-president, clerk, treasurer, a board of directors of ten members (subsequently increased but still later reduced) and two auditors. On the formal organization these officers were chosen:

President, John L. King; vice-president, Daniel L. Harris; clerk, William Rice; treasurer, James D. Safford; directors, George Bliss, Chester W. Chapin, James M. Thompson, Charles Merriam, George Walker, Ephraim W. Bond, Josiah G. Holland, John B. Stebbins, P. B. Tyler and James Kirkham.

On May 30, at a meeting of the directors the offer of Mr. Bliss was made the subject of special consideration, and at the same time a committee was appointed to employ the services of a competent architect with a view to determine the kind and character of building which would be best suited to the requirements of the association. This special committee comprised James M. Thompson, Ephraim W. Bond, Josiah G. Holland and William Rice. In the meantime the association had not been idle in regard to other matters relating to the construction of the proposed building, for soon after the passage of the act the president, Mr. King, consented to personally interest himself in the work of creating a building fund; and with such success were his endeavors rewarded that within a year a fund of $77,000 had been raised by subscription. On their part the members of the building committee secured the services of architect George Hathorne, of New York. The plans at length were prepared and approved, the work of construction was begun, and the library at the northeast corner of State and Chestnut streets was the result of the united efforts of the association and the generous people of Springfield who contributed to the building fund; and

when it was found that the structure could not be finished within the original estimate and a debt of about $25,000 was hanging over the institution, the people again liberally responded to the call and relieved the association of its burden.

In this brief chapter the library building itself needs no detailed description, for it is known to every person in the city, and generally throughout the county. In size the building is 100 by 65 feet, the material used in exterior construction being native granite and pressed brick, with richly cut Ohio freestone trimmings. The entire structure is in the mediæval style of architecture. The work of construction was finished in the spring of 1871, and the library was opened to the public in the following fall, with 31,400 books on the shelves. In later years, when the art and science buildings were erected, the original library building was given the name of the "Rice building," in honor of the late Dr. William Rice, who had labored long and faithfully, in season and out of season, for the success of this grand institution.

In speaking of the subsequent history of the library, a cotemporary writer has said: "Having comfortably located the city library in its splendid new home, the managers again appealed to the city for greater liberality in the direction of appropriations. The new building, with what it contained and the ground it occupied, represented a value of $185,000, all of which had been secured by the enterprise of the association. The association received annually from the subscription fees of one dollar, which were still required for the drawing of books, and from other sources. The importance of additional endowment funds had, meantime, been urged upon the public in annual reports of the directors, and the desirability of making the library entirely free by increased appropriation was also presented from time to time to the city government. In this line special effort was made in 1884 to increase the endowment funds. A plan was adopted by which it was provided that all subscriptions of $5,000 and upwards might be separately invested, and the fund thus created be known by the name designated by the donor, and the annual interest on such fund be expended for the specific department indicated by the donor. This plan met with approval, and $30,000 was almost immediately subscribed."

"The library was opened to the public May 25, 1885, entirely free in all departments. The success of the movement speedily dispelled the misgivings of those who had entertained doubts regarding the wisdom of the plan, and more than met the expectations of the most sanguine of its supporters. Before the close of the first year the number of persons holding cards in the library had increased from 1,100 to more than 7,000, and the annual circulation of books grew in the same time from 41,000 to 154,000."

When the library was made free the future success of the association was assured, and the sympathies and earnest support of the city and its people were with the institution. In connection with the library there are now five endowed departments: The John Bryant department of natural history, endowed by Mary Bryant in 1875, $5,000; the Chester W. Chapin department of reference, endowed by Dorcas Chapin in 1884, $10,000; the Augustus Hazard department of industrial art, endowed by Fanny Hazard Bond, $5,000; the Charles Merriam department of history, biography and travel, endowed by Charles Merriam, $5,000; and the James M. Thompson department of English literature, endowed by Anna Thompson, $5,000.

The principal legacies bequeathed to the association have been as follows: Estate of J. B. Vinton, 1871, $993; Elam Stockbridge, 1882, $1,500; Catharine H. Lombard, 1892, $5,126; Horace Smith, 1894, $50,000; William Merrick, 1896, $30,000; William Rice, 1898, $5,000.

The history of the city library during the last ten years has been a record of continued progress, and in that time it has become an important factor in educational growth and development. It is and for years has been operated in connection with the city school system, and through the courtesy of the directors books are sent to the Central high school and also to the remotely situated schools of less advanced grade. The co-operation of the city authorities in carrying out the true purpose of the institution is both earnest and generous, and the mayor, president of the common council and the superintendent of schools are made *ex officio* members of the board of directors.

For several years beginning in 1865 the city appropriated annually $1,500 for the library, and then increased the amount

to $3,500. In 1873, '74 and '75 the sum of $4,500 was appropriated annually, and in the following year the city "dog money" was added to the amount. From that year to 1901 the annual appropriations for the library have been as follows: 1876, $4,000 and $1,611.13 dog money; 1877, $3,500 and $2,451.11 dog money; 1878, $3,000 and $2,024.64 dog money; 1879, $3,000 and $1,623.60 dog money; 1880, $3,800 and $1,286.09 dog money; 1881, $4,800 and $1,263.49 dog money; 1882, $5,500 and $1,307.35 dog money; 1883, $7,000 and $1,231.32 dog money; 1884, $6,500 and $1,779.80 dog money; 1885, $10,500 and $1,926.93 dog money; 1886, $13,000 and $2,064.90 dog money; 1887, $12,600 and $2,444.48 dog money; 1888, $12,600 and $2,594.62 dog money; 1889, $12,800 and $2,365.08 dog money; 1890, $13,000 and $2,377.50 dog money; 1891, $14,300 and $2,712.80 dog money; 1892, $15,800 and $2,698.38 dog money; 1893, $17,000 and $2,657.07 dog money; 1894, $17,000 and $2,405.51 dog money; 1895, $21,000 and $2,840.00 dog money; 1896, $21,000 and $2,956.77 dog money; 1897, $23,500 and $3,124.99 dog money; 1898, $23,500 and $3,168.53 dog money; 1899, $29,161 including dog money; 1900, $29,945.56; 1901, $29,944.95.

Under the present arrangement of its affairs the property of the library association comprises three principal buildings, known, respectively, as the Rice building (the library building), the art building and the science building, and also an auxiliary building known as the women's club. Of each of these we may briefly treat.

The Art Building—It was the purpose of the City library association founded in 1857 to establish and maintain in connection with its library of books a department for the collection and exhibition of works of art, the greater portion of which it was expected would be contributed by friends of the enterprise; but in the early struggle for a permanent existence the association managers were content to devote their energies to the maintenance of the library alone, hence the collection of art works for many years was quite limited. Under the charter of 1864 the managers of the association determined to establish an art museum and made some little attempt to collect exhibits for that

department, but there was no systematic effort in that direction for several years.

On June 1, 1867, the legislature incorporated the "Springfield atheneum and gallery of arts," naming as incorporators William Stowe, Samuel Bowles, Albert D. Briggs, Frederic H. Harris and Charles O. Chapin. Whether it was the purpose of the new corporation to found an art museum and manage it in connection with the library association or as an entirely separate institution is not now known, but it is a fact that the incorporators themselves were, with one exception, members of the association. The authorized capital of the atheneum association was $100,000, and it was permitted to own and hold real estate not exceeding $75,000 in value. Evidently the new corporation soon merged in the older and the establishment of the art gallery was the result of their joint efforts.

The movement which led to the establishment of the Springfield art museum was begun in 1889, when the overcrowded condition of the library building made some change necessary. At one of the board meetings of the year George V. Smith offered by letter to bequeath his valuable collection of art treasures to the association on condition that there be provided a suitable place for its display; and this offer was supplemented by that of Mrs. Smith to likewise bequeath her rare collection of laces. About this time, through the offices of Noyes W. Fisk, who, acting for the Winthrop club, held the refusal of the property adjoining the library on the east, the directors were able to purchase the same for $35,000, the lot having a frontage of 115 feet on State street and 400 feet deep. The frame residence was removed to the rear of the lot and was refitted for the women's club. This purchase was made in 1890 with funds from the Horace Smith donation.

Then began the work of creating a fund for the art building, the onus being assumed by John Olmsted, who headed the subscription with a cash donation of $10,000, and by his earnest work in the city he soon secured subscriptions sufficient to warrant the erection of the building. The sum of $50,000 at first was thought to be sufficient for the purpose, but the total amount required was more than $90,000. The building was completed

and opened in 1895. In both exterior and interior design and finish it is a model of architectural genius, an excellent example of the Italian renaissance style, and also is an example of "good, honest construction." The west and south facades, in addition to their ornamentation, are appropriately inscribed with the names of the most famous painters, sculptors and artisans of Europe and America. The building is of brick, with terra cotta trimmings. The main entrance is at the end of the avenue leading from Chestnut street back of the library building, hence the more elaborate ornamentation on the west facade. The first story is devoted to the natural history museum, a large lecture room and another of less size, but when opened together will comfortably seat 350 persons. The second story is used for the art galleries. On a bronze tablet in the building may be seen the names of the contributors to the construction fund.

The Science building of the library association was erected in 1898, and was the result of a popular demand that the appointments of the association be made as complete and as elaborate as any city in the land can boast. Ample space for the building was found on the land north of the art museum, and when the directors had fully determined to undertake the work, and had completed their plans, John Olmsted again went among the loyal citizens of Springfield and secured the necessary pledges to the building fund, amounting to $30,000, and representing the contributions of more than one hundred persons. The building was occupied in 1898, and on a bronze tablet within its walls may be seen the names of those who helped to share the expense.

The succession of officials of the City library association is as follows:

Presidents—John L.King, 1864-72; Daniel L. Harris, 1873-79; Ephraim W. Bond, 1880-91; James R. Rumrill, 1892-1901; John Olmsted, 1901.

Vice-Presidents—Daniel L. Harris, 1864-72; Ephraim W. Bond, 1873-79; James M. Thompson, 1880-83; James A. Rumrill, 1884-94; John Olmsted, 1892-1900; Nathan D. Bill, 1901.

Clerks—William Rice, 1864-1897; John Cotton Dana, 1898.

Treasurers—James D. Safford, 1864-88; Henry H. Bowman, 1889.

Directors—Henry J. Beebe, 1897-— ; Nathan D. Bill, 1887-1901 ; George Bliss, 1864-72 ; Ephraim W. Bond, 1864-72 ; Samuel Bowles 2d, 1866-77 ; Samuel Bowles 3d, 1878-— ; Charles O. Chapin, 1872-82 ; Chester W. Chapin, 1864-83 ; Luke Corcoran, 1897-— ; George H. Deane, 1884-89 ; Frederick H. Gillett, 1893-— ; Orick H. Greenleaf, 1872-96 ; William H. Haile, 1892-1901 ; Azariah B. Harris, 1880-91 ; Josiah G. Holland, 1864-71 ; George E. Howard, 1873-88 ; James Kirkham, 1864-92 ; James W. Kirkham, 1893-— ; Henry S. Lee, 1893-— ; Charles Merriam, 1864-87 ; George S. Merriam, 1896-— ; William Merrick, 1883-86 ; James A. Rumrill, 1901-— ; John Olmsted, 1889-91 ; Robert O. Morris, 1901-— ; William S. Shurtleff, 1890-95 ; G. W. V. Smith, 1892-— ; Horace Smith, 1877-92 ; C. H. Southworth, 1892-96 ; John B. Stebbins, 1864-98 ; James M. Thompson, 1864-79 ; P. B. Tyler, 1864-65 ; George Walker, 1864-76 ; Daniel B. Wesson, 1888-92 ; Walter H. Wesson, 1899.

Officers, 1901—President, John Olmsted ; vice-president, Nathan D. Bill ; clerk, John Cotton Dana ; treasurer, Henry H. Bowman ; directors, Luke Corcoran, Samuel Bowles, George S. Merriam, G. W. V. Smith, Henry S. Lee, Frederick H. Gillett, James W. Kirkham, Henry J. Beebe, James A. Rumrill, Robert O. Morris ; and *ex officio,* the mayor, William P. Hayes ; the president of the common council, Everett E. Stone ; and the superintendent of schools, Thomas M. Balliet.

Auditors, J. H. Appleton and R. F. Hawkins.

The Library Corps—Any allusion to the personnel of the working force of the library association that failed to mention the splendid services of the late Dr. Rice would indeed be imperfect, for with him the success of the institution was the chief object of his long and useful life. He was an early member of the old city library association, and was its clerk, secretary and librarian, and also its most earnest advocate after 1860. He was the first clerk and librarian of the successor institution on its organization in 1864, and served in that capacity until the time of his death in 1897. He was followed in office by Mr. Dana, the present librarian, who has brought into the affairs of the association a new spirit of progress, new and improved methods, and

under his supervision the usefulness of the institution has been greatly increased.

The art and science departments in their respective buildings are now recognized as essential institutions of the city, and in connection with educational development they are factors of great importance. The art museum is under the curatorship of G. W. V. Smith, with Solomon Stebbins and Bernhart Richter as assistants, and Eleanor A. Wade assistant in the art library. In the science museum William Orr, principal of the central high school, holds the curatorship, with Grace L. Pettis as assistant. In the library Mr. Dana has a large corps of excellent assistants, among whom are persons whose service in their respective departments have made them experts on questions of library history. In seniority of service the first assistant librarian, Alice Shepard, is to be first mentioned, followed by William Stone, of the reading rooms, Mary Medlicott, the reference librarian, and A. Louise Morton, in the order named.

THE SPRINGFIELD POST-OFFICE—ITS MASTERS AND ITS MUTATIONS FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY.[1]

There is no known record of the time when a post-office was first established in Springfield. The business of carrying letters in the American colonies existed from the time of the earliest settlements, and in populous centers persons took it upon themselves to become depositaries and forwarders of them. Such persons later became quasi public functionaries by receiving licenses "to keep a post-office" and to charge certain fees. Probably the earliest enactment of this kind was the order of the general court of Massachusetts Bay in 1639, providing "that notice be given that Richard Fairbanks his house in Boston is the place appointed for all letters which are brought from beyond the seas or are to be sent thither to be left with him, and he is to take care that they are to be delivered or sent according to the direction. And he is allowed for every letter a penny, and must answer all miscarriages through his own neglect in this kind." In 1677

[1]From a paper prepared by Col. John L. Rice on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the new postoffice building, February 22, 1890.

the merchants of Boston petitioned the general court, setting forth the inconvenience of the private conveyance of letters and asking for the appointment of "some meet person" to conduct the business under regulations to be prescribed. Nothing came of this, however. A like condition of things existed in all the colonies down to near the close of the 17th century. The assembly of Pennsylvania in 1683 made it the duty of sheriffs, constables and justices of the peace to convey from county to county

Old building formerly on Postoffice site

letters on the public business. In like manner a Virginia statute of 1661 required the planters of that colony to forward such letters from plantation to plantation under a penalty of 350 pounds of tobacco for each default, and further provided that "if there is any person in the family where the said letters come as can write, such person is required to indorse the day and hour he received them, that the neglect or contempt of any person stopping them may be better known and punished accordingly."

Parliament took no steps to provide a postal service for the colonies till 1691, when Thomas Neal of London was granted the exclusive privilege of establishing post-offices in North America for 21 years, apparently with a view to his pecuniary advantage rather than the accommodation of the colonists. He proceeded at once to farm out his privilege through a postmaster-general, whom he appointed and established at New York. Under this regime Duncan Campbell became postmaster "of Boston and New England" in 1693, and was succeeded in 1701 by John Campbell, who held the office till 1718. Although there was legislation to prevent the private conveyance of letters, yet the competition from this source was such that Neal's postmasters found the business attended with little profit, and the Campbells were frequent petitioners to the general court for aid, which was generally granted in a small way. In 1693 "An Act to Encourage the Post-Office" was passed in Massachusetts. This was a well-considered piece of legislation, and was calculated to place the postal service upon a basis of public usefulness rather than of private gain. But the act was disallowed by the privy council at London as "inconsistent with the patent granted Thomas Neal, for the post-office in America," and things went on as before. But in 1710 parliament took the matter in hand, and from that time forward a postal service of a public nature was gradually established in the colonies, and by 1765 there was a line of posts along the Atlantic sea-board from New Hampshire to Georgia, with offices at all the principal towns on the route. As early as 1772 stages were running between New York and Boston carrying the mail. At first these passed to the southward of Springfield after leaving Hartford, but there was undoubtedly a post-office at Springfield long before this, although it was probably devoid of any official character, and received its mails from Hartford by post rider.

One of the first cares of the continental congress after assuming control of public affairs was the establishment of a postal service throughout the colonies by the act of July 26, 1775, and the appointment of Benjamin Franklin as postmaster-general. Moses Church was immediately appointed postmaster at Spring-

field, as appears by the financial records at Washington, although the record and exact date of his appointment is not preserved, and continued in the office throughout the entire period of the confederation, covering the incumbency as postmaster-general of Benjamin Franklin, Richard Bache and Ebenezer Hazard. With his appointment our earliest certain knowledge of the Springfield office begins, and a glance at its history shows that its removal to the new public building will be a radical change in point of location. For considerably more than a century it has never been north of Pynchon street nor south of State street. It has been housed in 10 different buildings under the administration of 15 different postmasters. Postmaster Church, upon his appointment, established it in a one-story frame building which stood at the northeast corner of Main and Court streets, on ground now occupied by the Five Cents savings bank building, where he carried on a hat and fur business which he had inherited from his father, Dea. Jonathan Church. When the postal service was transferred from the government of the confederation to that of the constitution, he was re-appointed postmaster by Samuel Osgood, President Washington's first postmaster-general, his commission dating June 2, 1790. At that time there were only 75 post-offices in the whole country and the total revenue from them all that year was $37,935, only a trifle more than the receipts from the Springfield office for the last four months, although the average letter rate then was 15 cents in lieu of the two cents which now suffices. The efficiency of the early postal service may be judged from the fact that among the first records in the dead-letter office at Washington there is note of an undelivered letter, mailed at Boston, August 25, 1786, addressed to "Jonathan Dwight, Springfield, Mass.," probably at that time the best known man in the town.

Postmaster Church was one of the town worthies in his day who held numerous public offices and besides the store kept a popular tavern across the street on the site of Wilson's new block. He died in 1810, but his hat business has come down uninterruptedly to this generation and is now carried on by Sanderson & Son near by its earliest location. A part of the orig-

inal post-office building, now used as a blacksmith shop, is still standing on East Court street. Postmaster Church was succeeded July 21, 1792, by Ezra W. Weld, a new-comer in Springfield, who had been sent from Worcester to take charge of the Hampshire Chronicle, for its owner, the celebrated Isaiah Thomas, the founder of the Worcester Spy and many other newspapers. At that time newspaper offices were also bookstores, as well as the starting points for the post riders who distributed the papers through the country, and were also licensed to carry letters on "cross lines" not traversed by stages. Towards such centers of intelligence the post-offices naturally gravitated, the public convenience seconding the publisher's ambition, and it thus came about that wherever a newspaper existed it was quite common to find its publisher filling the office of postmaster. This custom, coupled with the influence of his patron, undoubtedly accounts for the appointment of a stranger like Weld, as well as that of his immediate successor. Postmaster Weld removed the office to the Chronicle establishment, a two-story building at the corner of Main and Elm streets, where the new Chicopee bank building now stands.

The next year Weld and Thomas sold out the Chronicle and Thomas established the Federal Spy, sending here his son-in-law, James R. Hutchins, to manage it. The Spy not only speedily killed off the Chronicle, but it also secured the post-office. Editor Hutchins succeeded Editor Weld as postmaster April 25, 1793, and removed the office to the Spy establishment "at the corner of the entrance to the court house," where Brewer's drug store now is, at the corner of Main and Sanford streets. The following year the Spy passed into the hands of John W. Hooker and Francis Stebbins, and the post-office appears to have gone with it, for the record shows that Hooker became postmaster April 1, 1794. Two years later Stebbins announced himself "sole editor and proprietor" of the paper, and October 1, 1796, the postmastership was conferred upon him. He sold out the paper near the close of 1799, but for some reason the post-office then ceased to be an appurtenance of the establishment. Perhaps the public had tired of seeing the office bandied about at the sport

of the varying fortunes of newspaper editors who came and went with such frequency, for the four knights of the quill who had left the office seemed to have been carpet-baggers in Springfield, who remained only so long as their newspaper connection lasted.

James Byers, jr., was appointed postmaster January 1, 1800, under the presidency of John Adams. He was engaged in trade in a building then standing on the lot next north of the Springfield institution for savings, and by removing the post-office to his store he doubtless drew fresh patronage to his counters. This federalist official survived the defeat of his party a few months later, for the spoils system was not yet in vogue, and held on through the first and well into the second term of President Jefferson, when he sold out his store and surrendered the postmastership to a rival merchant across the way. Subsequently Byers passed a long and successful business career in Springfield, accumulating a large fortune and dying here in 1854 at an advanced age. Among his enterprises was the erection, along in the thirties, of the block on the Chicopee bank corner, now partially demolished, and the two blocks adjoining on Elm street. Byers street perpetuates his name.

Daniel Lombard succeeded Byers as postmaster July 29, 1806, and at once transferred the office to his own store, which was then on the Elm street corner, thus bringing it back to where it had been when attached to the Chronicle a dozen years before. Here for 23 years Lombard officiated as postmaster to the general satisfaction of the public, under the changing administrations of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and the younger Adams, till the deluge came with the inauguration of Andrew Jackson. The "clean sweep" of that memorable era reached Springfield June 3, 1829, when Lombard was succeeded by Albert Morgan. Springfield was a whig town, almost an entire generation had witnessed no change in the postmastership, and there was a great display of indignation, more or less simulated, at the removal for purely political reasons of this long-tried and faithful official. The demonstrations of disapproval were so prolonged that the democrats tardily offered the excuse that he was "incapacitated by age" and too frequently delegated his duties "to a female attend-

ant, and a colored female at that.'' This last charge was stoutly denied, and as to his age, he continued in active business many years afterward, dying in 1856 at the age of 92. He was a man of wealth and position, held many town offices and was a soldier on the right side in the time of the Shays rebellion. He is well remembered by our older citizens, and two of his daughters are still living at an advanced age on Howard street. A younger son, William, is also living in Chicago. He was the first letter carrier in Springfield, carrying letters as early as 1820 and receiving one cent each for the service.

Postmaster Morgan carried the office round to the corner of State and Market streets to a two-story wooden building which was torn away in 1866 to make room for the present savings bank building. Here the office continued till 1834, when it migrated to the Elm street store now occupied by Auctioneer Winter. Here, and in the two stores next west in the same building, it remained for upward of 30 years under six successive postmasters. The newspapers of the period bear testimony to the prevalence of the spoils doctrine, which had now become a prominent feature in politics. Within a week after Morgan's appointment the democratic newspaper announces with a flourish that the whig editor ''has been removed from, and we are the happy recipients of the distinguished office of honor and profit, that of advertising the dead letters remaining in our post-office.'' The whig organ in reply expresses ''the hope that the circumstances may not shake our political faith;'' whereupon the administration journal retorts with fine irony, ''we in turn as kindly hope that his enjoyment of this lucrative post for past years has not been the only reason that his political integrity has not been questioned.'' James E. Russell was assistant postmaster and man of all work in the office at this time. He slept in the office and relates that four consecutive hours of rest was the most that he was able to get out of the 24. Morgan served through President Jackson's two terms and was reappointed by Van Buren. After his retirement he established the American house on the site of the Boston & Albany railroad's granite building. Afterward he was president of the Agawam bank and of the Hampden savings

bank, and was one of the first board of directors of the Fire and Marine insurance company. He died in 1860.

The early death of President Harrison and the uncertain course of Vice-president Tyler postponed the fruits of the whig victory of 1840, but on April 1, 1842, Col. Solomon Warriner was appointed to succeed Morgan. The whig paper of the following week exulted that "after 13 years we are enabled to greet the return to our columns of the post-office advertising. For more than a year after the whig administration commenced, our late postmaster (Mr. Morgan) continued to advertise in the democratic paper." The editor of the latter quoted this boast and replied, "We advise the paper to make the most of it during the three years of Mr. Tyler's administration, for from that period we reckon it will be more than 13 years before it will again be restored." A year later Tyler had so far apostatized that he was turning out his whig appointees and installing democrats in their places. August 29, 1843, Col. Warriner was removed and Col. Harvey Chapin stepped into his shoes, but only for a brief period, as the event proved. Col. Warriner was long a leading business man in the town and was for many years actively identified with the militia. He was also a soldier in the war of 1812. But he is best remembered as an enthusiast in musical matters. For a long period he was a chorister at the First church, where the choir of 75 or 100 voices made an imposing part of the public worship. He was also leader of the first musical society in Springfield, the old Handel and Hayden society, a compiler of several collections of church tunes, and a recognized authority in musical matters in all this region. He died in 1860 at the age of 82.

The senate not being in session at the time of Col. Chapin's appointment, it was not necessary that he should await the action of that body, and he entered upon his duties as postmaster at once. At the next session of congress, however, the senate was found to be not in the mood of confirming Tyler's nominations, and that of Col. Chapin was rejected along with many others, and he stepped down and out. The local democracy promptly provided a fresh candidate, Dr. Elijah Ashley, editor

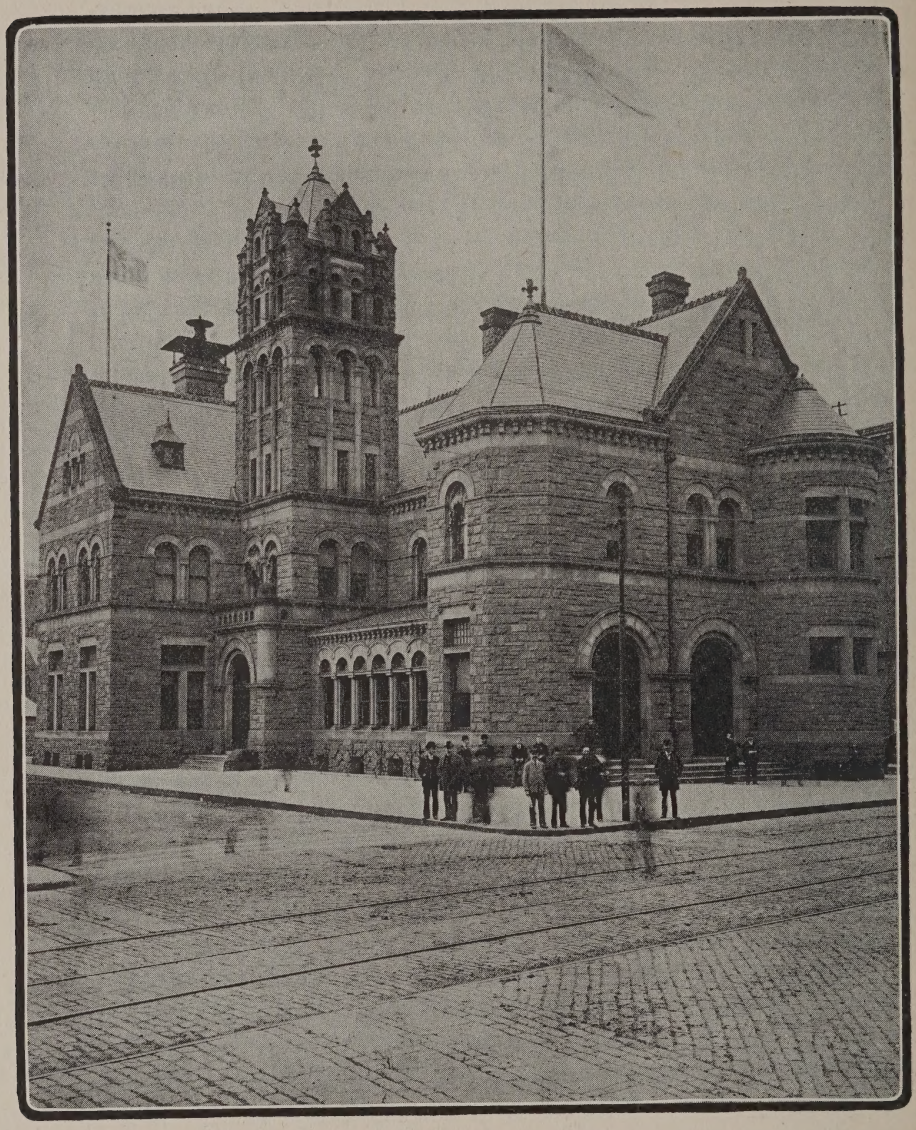
of the Independent Democrat, a newly established Tyler organ, the democratic Post never having come to the support of the administration. The senate rejected Ashley's nomination, and Ethan A. Clary, who was next nominated, shared the same fate. Finally on June 15, 1844, the last day of the session, Col. Galen Ames was nominated and confirmed, and served to the end of Tyler's term in the year following. He was a prominent merchant at that time, an officer in the militia and took an active part in public affairs generally. Subsequently he was for many years employed in the Boston and Albany office, remaining at his desk till within a few months of his death. He died in 1882, at the age of 86. When the democrats came to their own again, Col. Chapin naturally sought a vindication, and on May 5, 1845, President Polk appointed him postmaster, and he held the office till the whigs returned to power again, four years later. He was a leading democratic politician, an officer in the militia, and a popular tavern keeper in the days of turnpikes and stages. Like so many of his predecessors, he lived to be very old, dying in this city in 1877, at the age of 89 years.

Postmasterships had now come to be universally recognized as legitimate spoils in politics, and when the whigs came in again Col. Chapin went out, and June 7, 1849, President Zachary Taylor appointed William Stowe to succeed him. Mr. Stowe had for several years published the Springfield Gazette, an able whig paper which shortly before his appointment had been absorbed by the Republican. Whig ascendency, however, lasted only four years, and with the inauguration of President Pierce the democrats began to cast about for Stowe's successor. The choice finally fell upon Abijah Chapin, son of Col. Harvey Chapin, and August 10, 1853, he was appointed. President Buchanan reappointed him in 1858 and he continued in office until the inauguration of the first republican administration in 1861, after which he was engaged in the insurance business in this city for several years, and later retired to a farm in Deerfield, Mass. William Stowe came back to the office by appointment of President Lincoln April 10, 1861, Postmaster Chapin being removed a year before the expiration of his second term. In the inter-

val since his retirement in 1853, Mr. Stowe had served by several successive elections as clerk of the Massachusetts house of representatives. He was reappointed by President Johnson in 1866 and again by President Grant in 1870 and died in office December 7, 1871. In 1866 he removed the office from its outgrown quarters on Elm street to the Haynes hotel building, just then erected, where it remained for 10 years.

President Grant filled the vacancy January 8, 1872, by the appointment of Gen. Horace C. Lee, who had given up the office of city clerk at the outbreak of the rebellion to enter the army. His appointment was asked for by practically the unanimous voice of his fellow citizens in recognition of his brilliant military services, although there was some effort made to procure the appointment of the late Capt. Lewis A. Tifft, father of E. T. Tifft. Postmaster Lee was reappointed by President Grant in 1876 and again by President Hayes in 1880. At the close of his third term in 1884 he retired in shattered health and died a few months after from a complication of troubles induced by his service in the army. Under his administration in 1883 the free delivery system was established in Springfield, this service at that time requiring but eight carriers. There had been, however, a carrier system in vogue for a long time before this, the old penny post, so-called, although the carrier was usually allowed to charge two cents for delivering a letter. Chauncey K. Camp is remembered by many of our older citizens as a postman away back in the forties as well as his father before him. Gen. Lee also procured the removal of the office to the Five Cents savings bank building in 1876, after a sharp contest between that location and the one where the office now is.

Upon the retirement of Gen. Lee, President Arthur appointed Edward P. Chapin, his commission bearing date January 15, 1884. The late Lewis H. Taylor was the only opposing candidate at this time. Postmaster Chapin held the office for nearly a year after the inauguration of President Cleveland's administration, retiring voluntarily in February, 1886, to accept the appointment of savings bank commissioner tendered him by Gov. Robinson. The vacancy was filled by the appointment of



United States Custom House and Post-Office

John L. Rice, whose commission, signed by Grover Cleveland, bears the date of January 20, 1886. In the following year the office was removed to the Gilmore block, and there remained until the completion of the new federal building at the corner of Maine, Worthington and Fort streets. Col. Rice was the incumbent of the postmastership until March, 1890, although the commission of his successor, Col. Henry M. Phillips, bears the date of January 29 of that year. The latter served until succeeded by John H. Clune, whose commission was dated May 16, 1894. Louis C. Hyde, the present postmaster, was next in the succession, his commission bearing the date of June 30, 1898.

The movement to secure an appropriation for a federal building and post-office in this city began several years previous to the passage of the act of congress authorizing its construction. During the term of office of Congressman Rockwell, a bill was passed appropriating $150,000 for the erection of such a building, and when that was done, and approved, the business men of the north and south parts of Main street became earnest rivals, each striving to secure the coveted building for their locality. As is usual in such cases, the advocates of the site in the newest locality were successful, and for the first time in the history of the town and city the post-office went north of Pynchon street. But this great acquisition to business interests near the arch was not gained without considerable cost to the successful competitors, for the land on which the building was erected was purchased by them at a cost of $70,000 and was sold to the government for $18,500. The corner-stone of the new building was laid with impressive ceremonies on February 22, 1890, and on February 28, 1891, Col. Phillips removed the post-office into the finished structure.

The Springfield post-office building is a model of beauty, although in its construction there is no elaborate architectural display. It is of Longmeadow brown stone, substantial and symmetrical in every part, with artistic trimmings. When built it was large enough for the business of the office, but in the course of a few years there was a demand for more room. The crowded condition was partially relieved by the extension built on the Worthington street side in 1900-01.

CEMETERIES

The city of Springfield has six well laid out and improved places for the burial of the dead. In the early history of the town the settlers established a burial ground in rear of the meeting house lot, which was entered by way of Meeting-house lane, or the thoroughfare which is now called Elm street. This was the "silent city" for the inhabitants of that part of the town which bordered on the river. In 1645, according to the town records, William Pynchon and Henry Smith bargained with Francis Ball and Thomas Stebbins for two and one-half acres of land on the river, which previously had been the "home lots" of those worthy settlers, but which was secured by the town for a burying ground and a training field. It was maintained as a town cemetery until 1696 and then was conveyed to the trustees of the First parish. This plot lay on the east bank of the river and extended from Elm street nearly to State street.

The second burying ground in this locality comprised half an acre of land bought by the trustees of the parish from Aaron Warriner, the tract having been a part of that settler's home lot. It was situated north of Elm street, west of the present line of Water street, and extended north to the south line of the old Trask foundry lot of later years. For more than two centuries these tracts were known as the north and the south burying grounds, and throughout that long period they were the established cemeteries of this part of the town; and so continued until the construction of the railroad necessitated the removal of the bones from their quiet resting-place on the bank of the Connecticut to some locality more remote from the busy haunts of man. This work was done under the direction of Elijah Blake; and by him the honored dust of some of our most worthy forefathers was transferred to a specially designated spot in the Pine street portion of the new cemetery, there to await the final call. Among the remains thus removed were those of Mari (Mary), wife of Elizur Holyoke; Henry Burt, who died in 1662; Deacon Samuel Chapin, the Puritan, whose statue in bronze adorns the terrace west of the city library building; Capt. Elizur Holyoke, who died in 1675; Major John Pynchon, son of the founder of the colony

and town; Japhet Chapin, son of the Deacon; Col. Wm. Pynchon; Col. John Pynchon, Josiah Dwight, Col. John Worthington, and hundreds of others who in some manner during their lives had been identified with the early interesting history of the town.

The Second parish graveyard, "set aside by the pioneers of Springfield, was at Chicopee, on the north side of Chicopee river. Many years later the Springfield land company, who were the original purchasers and who developed the water power at the center village, laid out the private cemetery of four acres on Elm street, in rear of the old high school building, to which several additions were afterward made." About 1865 the town of Chicopee purchased 25 acres between the Center and the Falls and laid out the beautifully shaded city cemetery of to-day. The first Catholic cemetery was opened by Father Brady of Chicopee, on Springfield street, and within the limits of the present city of Springfield, but for some reason it never was used to any great extent for burial purposes.

The Springfield Cemetery.—For more than a year previous to the laying out of this cemetery there was a strong feeling in favor of such a movement, but the question of location was the subject of much consideration. At that time Dr. W. B. O. Peabody was an influential personage in local history and he gave the matter of a new cemetery plot much careful thought. Having a thorough knowledge of the topographical character of the town, and evidently an intuitive understanding of its future growth, he finally suggested the beautiful locality known as "Martha's dingle" as the most appropriate tract for a burial place. He found earnest co-workers in George Bliss, George Eaton, George Ashmun, Justice Willard, Homer Foot and other prominent men of the time, and with such energy as these influences could bring to bear the work of organizing an association was hardly more than a matter of form.

In 1840 all preliminaries were settled and the site was chosen by a committee selected for that purpose. On May 9, 1841, on the application of fourteen representative citizens (Justice Willard, W. B. O. Peabody, Henry Adams, Samuel Rey-

Entrance to Springfield Cemetery

nolds, George Dwight, George Eaton, Homer Foot, Edward Savage, Allen Bangs, Wm. S. Elwell, Solyman Merrick, John Avery, Charles A. Mann and Eliphalet Trask) a warrant was issued for a meeting of townsmen to organize the "Rural cemetery association." At the meeting George Ashmun occupied the chair, and John Howard, Justice Willard, Elijah Blake, Charles W. Chapin and Asa Flagg presented a plan of organization, which was adopted. Dr. Peabody was chosen president, Elijah Blake, treasurer, and Chester Harding, Philo Wilcox, George Dwight, Joseph Weatherhead, George Eaton, Samuel Reynolds and Walter H. Bowdoin as the trustees of the association.

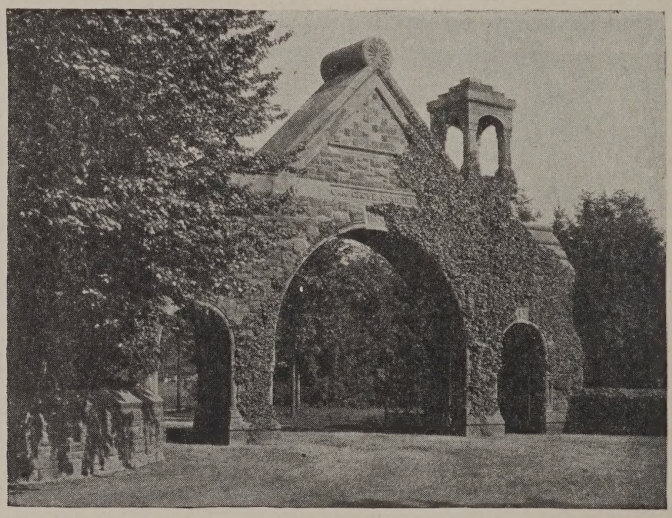
The original cemetery purchase comprised a little less than twenty acres of land, but in later years the association was compelled occasionally to add other parcels until the grounds occupied much of the space bounded by Walnut, Pine, Cedar and Union streets, with principal entrances from Maple and Walnut streets. The cemetery was consecrated September 5, 1841, the principal orator of the occasion being Dr. Peabody. The first burial was made September 6, 1841. The burying grounds of the Union street Methodist society were laid out about 1825, and were included within the cemetery tract in 1844.

The Springfield cemetery, which frequently is known as the "Peabody" cemetery, in honor of its founder in fact, for many years has been regarded as the favorite depositary of the dead in the city. Nature's endowment here has been beautiful and abundant, and while the grounds are not well adapted either to residence of business occupancy they are admirably situated for burial purposes. The works of nature have been materially improved upon by the arts of man. In the presidency of the association Dr. Peabody was succeeded by George Bliss, and the latter in turn by Albert D. Briggs. The later presidents have been George Dwight, Charles O. Chapin, Calvin C. Chaffee and Edward P. Chapin. The present officers of the association are Edward P. Chapin, president; C. A. Nichols, vice-president; W. C. Marsh, clerk and treasurer; Dr. D. F. Atwater and Henry H. Bowman, auditors. Superintendent, Fred Emery.

St. Benedict's Cemetery, more frequently referred to as the "Old Catholic cemetery," at the junction of Liberty and Arm-

ory streets, the burial plots in which were filled many years ago, was laid out in 1848 and was intended for the interment of the Catholic dead of Chicopee and Springfield.

St. Michael's Cemetery was purchased and laid out in 1871, under the direction of Bishop O'Reilly, of the diocese of Springfield. The tract comprises fifty acres of rolling land, pleasantly situated south of the Boston road, in the eastern part of the city. Subsequently thirty-three acres more were added to the tract, thus constituting one of the most extensive burial places in the county.



Entrance to Oak Grove Cemetery, Springfield

Oak Grove Cemetery.—This beautiful location as a place of burial owes its existence to the efforts chiefly of James Kirkham, who succeeded in securing subscriptions to the capital stock ($25,000) with which to make the purchase of land and, in part, to lay out the cemetery lots, avenues and parks. Among the others who were financially interested in the undertaking there may be recalled the names of Daniel B. Wesson, John Olmsted, Orick H. Greenleaf, Ephraim W. Bond, Justin Sackett, James M. Thompson, H. S. Lee, Horace Smith, G. A. Kibbe, N. C.

Newell, G. W. Tapley, Wm. H. Haile, Elisha Gunn, O. D. Adams, Gideon Wells and John Goodrich.

The association was organized in 1881, at a time when the city was in need of another cemetery, and the laying out of the new plot was looked upon in the light of a public enterprise. The lands selected comprised parts of the old Stebbins, Sackett, Adams and Thompson farms, and contained ninety acres of land. The purchase price was $12,249, but far more than that amount in addition was expended in developing the plot under the direction of Justin Sackett.

Oak Grove Cemetery is situated on the old "Bay road," about two miles east of court square. "Its spacious avenues and walks, in straight lines and circles, are of solid gravel, while its aquatic and forestry adornments, in which simplicity and wildness have not been sacrificed to artistic ornamentation, are thoroughly gratifying to the sense and taste." The cemetery was consecrated with impressive ceremonies, in charge of Rev. Samuel G. Buckingham, in October, 1885. The beautiful arch at the Bay street entrance was built in 1883. The present officers of the association are Daniel B. Wesson, president; D. A. Folsom, treasurer; and Jonathan Barnes, clerk. Superintendent, James C. Sackett.

Maplewood Cemetery, at Indian Orchard, dates back in its history to the year 1816, when a small tract comprising less than an acre of land was set apart as a burying ground for the people of that locality. An acre of land was added to the plot in 1882, and in the same year the Maplewood cemetery association was organized.

Previous to about three-score years ago nearly every religious society having a house of worship also had a churchyard for the burial of the dead; but after the rise of the recognized cemeteries, old customs were changed and the remains of the dead no longer were laid at rest in the church lot. A few burial places of this class are still in existence and among them mention may be made of that in what once was called Cherry lane, near where stood a Baptist church edifice; another is seen near the once-known "Faith chapel," on Sumner avenue; another on

Allen street, three miles out on the road to Hampden; and still another on Parker street, between Sixteen Acres and the Ludlow mills.

HOSPITALS

Several years before Springfield became a city the subject of founding a hospital had been discussed in the town, and from old records it is learned that such a proposition received the attention of the inhabitants in one or more of the town meetings. Still, nothing was accomplished in this direction until about the period of the civil war, when sick and wounded soldiers were brought here for rest and treatment. This led to an act of the legislature incorporating a hospital association, Albert D. Briggs, Orick H. Greenleaf and Samuel G. Buckingham being the leading spirits of the enterprise. Ths association, however, was never fully organized and the charter became ineffective.

The Springfield Hospital.—In 1868 Dr. George S. Stebbins, then city physician, in his annual official report recommended the establishment of a city hospital. In the following year the city purchased a tract of land on the Boston road and remodeled the large farm house thereon for hospital occupancy. The grounds comprised about two acres of land, which, with the buildings, cost the city $10,630, with $2,455 additional for furnishings. The institution was opened to the public in April, 1870, and was, until the appointment of a board of managers in October of that year, in charge of the city physician and a committee of the city council.

While the hospital itself, even in the early period of its history, was one of the worthy institutions of the city, it was apparent that the best interests of the city demanded that the conduct of its affairs be placed in the hands of a board of managers. The mayor so recommended in his message in 1870, and in accordance therewith a board was constituted, comprising, originally, Eliphalet Trask, James A. Rumrill, Henry S. Lee, George E. Howard, John A. Hall, H. N. Case, Henry S. Hyde, Abijah W. Chapin and John B. Stebbins. Mr. Trask was the first president and Mr. Hall the first secretary of the board.

In 1873 an act of the legislature authorized the city to raise by tax such sum of money as the city council might deem necessary for the support of the hospital. From this time until 1879 the institution was conducted by the board of managers without material change in method, but the demand for more room and better accommodations was constantly increasing. In the year mentioned an amended ordinance vested the immediate control of the hospital in a board of trustees, three of whom, it was provided, should be women. This ordinance was a departure compared with previous methods, but it proved of great benefit to all interests, having brought several women into the councils of the board and thereby created an added interest in the institution throughout the city.

The Springfield hospital was incorporated December 24, 1883, the original corporate members being Henry M. Phillips, Henry S. Hyde, Dorcas Chapin, Charles Marsh, Lizzie D. Nichols, Henry A. Gould, James A. Rumrill, Julia A. Callender, Lucinda O. Howard, Iranna L. Pomeroy, John Cotton Brooks, William Merrick, Charles H. Southworth, David Allen Reed and Timothy M. Brown. The object of the corporation, according to its by-laws, was to establish and maintain a hospital in the city of Springfield for the purpose of furnishing medical and surgical treatment for persons requiring the same temporarily. Originally the corporation comprised fifty persons, but in 1897 the number was increased to one hundred persons.

The first officers were Henry S. Hyde, president; Timothy M. Brown, clerk; Charles Marsh, treasurer; James A. Rumrill, Henry A. Gould, Lucinda O. Howard, Henry S. Hyde, Lizzie D. Nichols, Julia A. Callender, Charles H. Southworth and David Allen Reed, trustees, with the mayor and president of the common council *ex officio* members of the board.

Many of the original officiary were long associated with the work of the institution and unselfishly gave their time to the conduct of its affairs; and, did the necessities of the occasion require, they contributed liberally of their means to its maintenance. Mr. Hyde, the first president, is still in office and his influence in the affairs of the institution always has been for the general good.

One of the objects of the corporate body was to provide, as soon as possible, a specially constructed and equipped hospital building, but the most prudent means to accomplish that end was not then apparent, the chief obstacle being the lack of necessary funds. However, before the hospital itself was founded one of the city's foremost men, Chester W. Chapin, who in some prominent manner had been identified with many worthy public enterprises, had contemplated the establishment of a city hospital, but he died before the plans were fully matured; and it remained for his widow, Dorcas Chapin, a most estimable woman, to carry out the intentions of her husband. On her death, November 14, 1886, she bequeathed to the corporation the sum of $25,000 for the benefit of the hospital, on condition that a like sum be raised by subscription and that the city convey to the corporation its hospital and equipment. Both conditions were complied with and the corporation found its affairs to be on an excellent financial basis, deriving a fair income from invested funds and receiving an annual appropriation from the city government.

Early in 1887 (Jan. 17) William Merrick, whose untimely taking off caused a shock in city business circles, also died, and in his will the hospital corporation was made residuary legatee. All the funds from this source did not become immediately available, but were turned over as soon as the procedure of the court would permit; and when acquired the legacy enriched the corporation by more than $98,000. The subscription fund called for under the Chapin will was raised in April, 1887, and amounted to $28,444.96. In October of the same year the city deeded to the corporation the hospital property on the Boston road.

In November, 1887, the Fuller farm of about 35 acres of land on North Chestnut street was purchased by the trustees, and in accordance with plans adopted May 15, 1888, the present hospital building was erected thereon. On Saturday, May 14, 1889, the building was dedicated with appropriate exercises, and on the following Monday the hospital was opened for the reception of patients.

Thus permanently established under excellent management, the Springfield hospital at once became one of the most worthy institutions of the city, and one which to-day ranks with the best hospitals in the state. Fortunately for the institution, its trustees and officers have been chosen from among the best business men and the most benevolently inclined women of the city, and in every respect its affairs and mangement have been in trustworthy hands.

So commendable indeed has been the main object of the institution and so earnest have been the endeavors of its officers that the corporation has been the recipient of several splendid bequests and endowments besides those previously mentioned. In 1891 the Margaret H. Lombard bequest of $10,000 was received and was made to constitute the "Lombard fund for the establishment of free beds." In 1892 the John Lombard fund was received under the will of Catherine H. Lombard. In 1894 the corporation received the Horace Smith bequest of $30,000 for the establishment of free beds. In 1895 Mrs. James A. Rumrill established a free bed with the income of $520 per annum. In 1898 there was received from the Caroline C. Briggs estate the sum of $1,609; from the Charles Bill estate, $6,000; and from the Mary J. Baldwin estate, $6,000. In 1899 there was received from Elizabeth W. and Nathan Adams, $6,300, and from the estate of Angelina Stebbins the sum of $1,000. In 1900 the additional sum of $233.21 was received from Elizabeth W. and Nathan Adams.

Thus, in the aggregate, the hospital corporation has received from all sources since 1886 the splendid sum of $248,264.86, of which amount $33,952.59 were raised by popular subscription. The present hospital property represents a value of $112,711.91; the Merrick building a value of $18,130.48; the laboratory, $435, and the furnishings in all departments, $4,887.30.

The officers of the corporation for the year 1901 are as follows: Henry S. Hyde, president; C. H. Beckwith, clerk; W. F. Callender, treasurer; Henry S. Hyde, Henry A. Gould, James A. Rumrill, Henry M. Phillips, Robert W. Day, W. F. Callender, Chester W. Bliss, Mrs. C. A. Nichols, Mrs. Charles Van

Vlack, Mrs. Samuel Bowles, Mrs. Gideon Wells, Andrew B. Wallace, Lewis F. Carr, Mrs. James T. Abbe, Mrs. Charles E. Stickney, with the mayor and president of the common council, both *ex officio,* trustees. The personnel of the committee on aids and charities is as follows: Mrs. H. A. Gould, Mrs. James D. Safford, Mrs. Frederick Harris, Mrs. R. W. Day, Mrs. E. B. Hedden, Mrs. R. F. Hawkins, Mrs. W. H. Wesson, Mrs. F. B. Doten, Mrs. Chester W. Bliss, Mrs. Henry F. Trask, Mrs. Austin E. Smith, Mrs. E. S. Brewer, Mrs. F. A. Bill and Mrs. A. B. Wallace.

The House of Mercy Hospital was founded in 1896, when Bishop Beaven purchased the Allis property on Carew street and remodeled the building for a new occupancy. The hospital was formally opened July 19, 1898, in the old Allis house, and in the same year the work of erecting a new building was begun under the personal supervision of the bishop and his faithful coworkers, the corner-stone ceremonies being held in October. In due season the structure was finished and dedicated, and at once was given in charge of the good sisters of Providence, through whose splendid work the three great hospitals in Holyoke, Worcester and Springfield have been founded and maintained.

The Mercy hospital, as commonly known, is one of Springfield's noblest charities, and one which the people have learned to appreciate according to its worth. When the institution was founded its business affairs were placed in the hands of the Mercy hospital corporation, the present officers of which are as follows: President, Rt. Rev. Thomas D. Beaven; secretary, Rev. Thomas Smyth; treasurer, Mother Mary of Providence; executive committee, Rt. Rev. Thomas D. Beaven, Rev. Thomas Smyth, Mrs. Ann Mara, John McFethries, Mother Mary of Providence, and Mrs. James B. Carroll.

Hampden Homoeopathic Hospital.—On January 29, 1900, at the solicitation of Dr. John H. Carmichael, Daniel B. and Cynthia M. Wesson donated their elegant residence, No. 132 High street, for a homoeopathic hospital. The munificent gift was accepted by the representatives of homoeopathy in the county, and before May 1 following the sum of $10,000 had been raised

to remodel the interior of the building into a modern hospital, fully equipped for the very best kind of professional work and supplied with all kinds of medical and surgical apparatus.

On May 1 the institution was regularly incorporated under the name above mentioned, the corporators being Daniel B. Wesson, George B. Holbrook, A. N. Mayo, A. W. Damon, C. C. Lewis, E. P. Chapin, Oscar H. Greenleaf, H. E. Marsh, Lewis J. Powers, Henry Beebe, W. E. Wright, H. C. Rowley, William W. McClench, Dr. John H. Carmichael, Henry H. Bowman and Warner F. Sturtevant.

The hospital building contains thirty beds and is admirably arranged for its new occupancy. The surrounding grounds are ample and contain a grove and several fine springs. In connection with the management of the institution there is an excellent nurse's training school. In every respect the hospital fills a long felt want in the city, especially in homoeopathic circles, and during the brief period of its existence it has gained rapidly in popularity and usefulness.

The object of the institution is to care for the sick, and all physicians and surgeons, of whatever school, have such free access to its benefits as is consistent with its somewhat limited size and accommodations. Any physician in good standing is allowed the privileges of the hospital, and subject to the rules of the corporation may treat private patients therein. Patients of this class are expected to pay a moderate fee for the use of the surgery, and admissions are made on application to the matron, or through their own physician.

The present officers of the corporation are as follows; President, Lewis J. Powers; first vice-president, Edward P. Chapin; second vice-president, H. C. Rowley; secretary, William W. McClench; treasurer, Henry H. Bowman; trustees, Mrs. O. B. Ireland, Dr. Clarice J. Parsons, Annie L. Bailey, Harriet S. Rowley, Fred C. Wright, Mrs. John H. Carmichael, Mrs. F. H. Page, Daniel B. Wesson, W. C. Newell, George M. Holbrook and Phillip C. Powers. Executive committee, Dr. John H. Carmichael, chairman, Dr. O. W. Roberts and Dr. F. M. Bennitt. Medical and surgical staff, Drs. O. W. Roberts, Plum Brown, F. M. Ben-

nitt and Clara M. Sweet. Consulting physicians, Drs. George G. Shelton (New York), George H. Smith (Holyoke), J. P. Sutherland (Boston) and A. M. Cushing (Springfield). Assistant physicians, Drs. Clarice J. Parsons, James M. Gates and Alice E. Rowe. Surgeon-in-chief, Dr. John H. Carmichael. Assistant surgeons, Drs. Robert F. Hovey, James B. Comins, Harry W. Green and Seth A. Lewis. Consulting surgeons, Drs. Sidney F. Wilcox (New York), Nathaniel Emerson (Boston). Oculist and aurist, Dr. George Rhoads. Rhynologist and

Pynchon Street School, Springfield

laryngologist, Dr. Charles Chapman. Bacteriologist and pathologist, Dr. Harry W. Green. Electro therapeutist, Dr. Clarice J. Parsons. Anaesthetists, Drs. James M. Gates and Alice E. Rowe. Dental surgeon, Dr. C. S. Hurlbut.

The King's Daughters and Sons Hospital, located at No. 12 Brace street, in the extreme south part of the city and in the delightful vicinity of Forest park, is one of the newest charitable institutions of Springfield. The hospital was incorporated April 26, 1900, and is maintained largely through the benevolent

work of women. The house accommodations are small, yet the care of patients is as carefully provided for as in any of the larger similar institutions of the city. The corporation has not finished the first year of its history, but its present condition indicates a future of usefulness and progress. The present officers are Mrs. Mary P. Flagg, president; Mrs. Hattie A. Powers, clerk; Mrs. F. C. Woodstock, treasurer.

Springfield Home for Friendless Women and Children.— This, the oldest eleemosynary institution of the city, dates its history from 1865, when an act of incorporation was passed by the legislature, naming Rachel C. Merriam, Charlotte Barnes, Caroline L. Rice, and their associates, as corporators, and authorizing them to establish and maintain a temporary home for destitute and friendless women and children. Originally the corporation was authorized to hold real and personal property to the amount of $20,000, but by subsequent supplementary acts the amount was increased, and now the corporation may hold property to the value of $200,000.

In 1865 the managers purchased, at a cost of $4,500, a house and lot in William street, where the home began its history, but after five years a separate house for children (the property being located on Buckingham street) was purchased. The building was improved and made ready for immediate occupancy, and the people gave generously in response to appeals for financial aid in behalf of the institutions. Since that time two homes have been supported, and ever have been in prudent hands. For several years the legislature made annual appropriations of $2,000 for the benefit of the homes, but in 1872 these contributions were discontinued. Now the homes are supported chiefly by the city churches and the interest from invested funds. The permanent fund at this time amounts to almost $140,000. About $15,000 are required for annual maintenance.

The officers and managers of the corporation for 1901 are as follows: Mrs. William C. Warren, president; Mary L. Jacobs and Mrs. William G. Breck, vice-presidents; Mrs. J. H. Carmichael, clerk; Mrs. George H. Carter, treasurer; Mrs. George W. Tapley, corresponding secretary; Henry S. Lee and George

W. Tapley, auditors. The board of managers comprises Mrs. Wm. G. Breck, Mrs. George Church, Mrs. David P. Smith, Mrs. George W. Tapley, Mary L. Jacobs, Mrs. Charles Hall, Mrs. Henry S. Hyde, Mrs. Harlan P. Stone, Mrs. Charles A. Nichols, Mrs. O. S. Greenleaf, Elizabeth M. Ames, Mrs. Homer G. Gilmore, Mrs. Wm. C. Warren, Mrs. Charles P. Nichols, Mrs. Azel A. Packard, Mrs. George H. Carter, Amy B. Alexander, Mrs. John H. Carmichael, Mrs. Ferguson R. Mellows, Mary M. Atwater, Mrs. Charles E. Stickney, Mrs. Silas Kenyon, Mrs. James D. Safford, Mrs. Charles Shaw, Mrs. Bradley D. Rising, Mrs. Edmund E. Charles, Mrs. E. L. Janes, Mrs. Orthello K. Merrill, Mrs. Joseph T. Herrick, Mrs. Elijah Belding. Advisory committee, Gurdon Bill, Henry S. Lee, George W. Tapley, Rev. John C. Brooks, Harlan P. Stone, R. W. Ellis, H. H. Skinner. Board of physicians, Drs. Marshall Calkins, Frederick W. Chapin, George L. Woods, Cheney H. Calkins, Wm. H. Pomeroy, Sarah M. Wilbur, Mary Blake.

Springfield Home for Aged Women.—In the early part of the year 1884 a movement was begun in Springfield in behalf of a home for aged women. One of the most earnest advocates of the cause was the late Dr. Thomas L. Chapman, through whom the late Marvin Chapin (who for many years had been a prominent factor in city history) became likewise interested in the project. The early informal meetings of friends of the work were held in Mr. Chapin's residence, and there the preliminaries were discussed and the plans were matured. Among the other persons prominently identified with the early history of the institution were Mrs. Chester W. Chapin and Miss Frances Lombard.

The home was regularly incorporated under the laws of the state, and the articles of association were signed September 3 of that year. The original incorporators were Marvin Chapin, Thomas L. Chapman, Orick H. Greenleaf, Homer Merriam, David Allen Reed, Mrs. I. Newton Bullens, Henry S. Lee, J. Augustus Robinson, Wm. P. Draper, Wm. H. Chapin, Gratia R. Reed, Edward C. Rogers, Eliza B. Rogers, Harriet S. C. Birnie, Wm. L. Smith, Caroline L. Smith, Theo. F. Breck, Helen C.

Breck, Thomas W. Bishop, Mary D. Chapman, Angelina Stebbins, Mrs. James D. Brewer, Frances Lombard, Margaret H. Lombard, M. Lucretia Smith, Mary A. Bill, Harriet E. Dutton, Elizabeth D. Nichols, Annie L. Brooks, Sadie E. Haywood, Mary Ames, Jeannie G. Ireland, Rebecca A. Gordon, Harriet B. Hitchcock, Horace Smith, Gurdon Bill, Mrs. J. M. Thompson, Elizabeth M. Ames, Mrs. Chester W. Chapin, Frank R. Young, Isabel S. Young, William Birnie..

The first officers of the corporation were, president, Marvin Chapin; vice-president, Thomas Luce Chapman; treasurer, Henry S. Lee; clerk, Frank R. Young; finance committee, Marvin Chapin (chairman), Horace Smith, Wm. L. Smith.

The corporation purchased a house and lot at the corner of Main and William streets, which was made the first home of the association. The building was remodeled and furnished largely through the liberality of Marvin Chapin. The home was opened for inmates November 22, 1886, which date marks the beginning of its history in the boundless field of charitable work; and from that time it has been recognized as one of the worthy institutions of the city, and one in which the benevolent people have taken a most kindly interest. In the course of time, however, the increasing popularity of the home resulted in a severe tax upon its capacity and the managers began looking for a new location and hoping for a much larger building. Having received several considerable donations of money and having been given assurances of necessary help in building a larger home, the corporation purchased from John Olmsted his splendid residence property on Chestnut street, the consideration paid therefor being merely nominal when compared with the real value of the lands.

The house on the land, being unsuitable for the purposes of the home, was removed, and in its place was erected the present elegant structure, with a capacity for thirty inmates. It was completed and occupied May 31, 1900, and was formally dedicated in the following fall.

According to the published statement of the board of managers, this home is not designed to be a boarding house, nor to

be altogether free to its inmates, but it is intended for the accommodation of these three classes of women over 65 years of age: "Those who have some relative who cannot conveniently receive them into his or her family, and who desires and prefers to pay for their support in an institution of this kind; those whose support will be assumed wholly, or in part, by the church to which they belong; and those who have some means of their own, but not enough to maintain themselves without help, during their declining years."

The Industrial House Charities of Springfield was originally organized in 1883 and was incorporated in 1895. The corporators were Mina C. Hall, Jane E. Law, Harriet N. Hosley, Elizabeth O. Bailey, Mary E. Heywood, Martha M. Mills, Emma C. Bugbee, Emma M. Downing, Ednah D. Tobey and Sarah B. Stone. The object of this organization is to aid the poor of the city and help the destitute to provide for themselves. For its truly benevolent purposes the corporation has provided a comfortable home building on Bliss street. It is supported by the charitable contributions of citizens, the earnings of its inmates and the interest derived from invested funds. It is a worthy charity, deserving the earnest consideration of the public.

The board of officers and managers for 1901 is as follows: President, Mrs. Charles Hosley; vice-president, Mrs. Frederic S. Bailey; clerk, *pro tem.*, Mrs. David Allen Reed; treasurer, Martha M. Mills; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Ernest D. Bugbee; advisory board, G. F. Adams, Arthur B. West, Charles H. Barrows, James B. Kirkham, Andrew B. Wallace; auditor, G. F. Adams; managers, Mrs. Charles D. Hosley, Mrs. Silas N. Heywood, Mrs. Frederic S. Bailey, Mrs. Charles A. Stone, Emma L. Holbrook, Addie Clark, Mrs. David A. Reed, Mrs. Fordis C. Parker, Martha M. Mills, Mrs. Frank G. Tobey, Mrs. Wm. P. Draper, Carrie Emory, Mrs. Ernest D. Bugbee, Mrs. Wm. T. Parker, Mrs. W. O. Collins.

The Young Men's Christian Association—This association of christian workers in Springfield, now comprising one corporation with four branches, traces its history back to the year 1852, when the first formal organization was effected, although early

in its work certain questions regarding membership gave rise to much discussion and soon accomplished the downfall of the institution. No secretary's record of transactions has been preserved, and little is known of early association history, but it may be said that the Springfield organization was third in point of seniority among the associations of America. In 1854 and 1855 H. A. Chapin was president, and at that time rooms in Blake's building, opposite court square, were occupied. In 1854 the association was represented by H. A. Robinson at the first international convention assembled in Buffalo, N. Y., but the next year it passed out of existence.

In the course of the next ten years evidently there was a revival of interest in the city, as the local body is reported as having a representation at the Philadelphia convention in 1865. In 1866 it had 130 members, and in 1867 delegates were sent to the convention at Montreal and also to the state convention. In 1868 the members numbered 202, and W. H. H. Wooster was president. In 1869 the members had increased to 253, and in that year, also in 1870, H. W. Hallett was president. O. D. Morse was president in 1871-72; G. C. Andrews in 1873; Milton Bradley in 1874-75, and Wm. P. Draper in 1876, the membership then being 390. However, about this time the association appears to have declined, and in the following year it is mentioned merely as having an existence.

In 1878 the Springfield Railroad Y. M. C. A. first appears by name in the general reports, and from that time its history has been continuous. The West Springfield railroad branch is first mentioned in 1882, and that, too, has since grown and prospered. From this we may fairly assume that the Springfield railroad branch was the only local association in the city from 1878 to 1883. In the latter year the Armory Hill association was organized and entered on its career of usefulness. It was incorporated in 1886. In 1884 the Springfield association was organized, and from that time to 1891 there were three Y. M. C. A. bodies in the city. The Springfield association was incorporated in 1885 as the Central Y. M. C. A., the corporators being J. Stuart Kirkham, Ralph W. Ellis, Stedman W. Craig, E. Porter

Dyer, Z. W. Smith, Charles E. Brown, C. H. Morton, A. Ladner, W. F. Andrews, Charles H. Barrows, C. H. Southworth, F. H. Dumbleton, J. F. E. Chamberlain, F. D. Howard and W. M. White.

By an act of the legislature passed in 1891 the Central association and the Armory Hill association were consolidated under the name of the "Springfield Young Men's Christian Association." Since that time the history of the greater body has been a record of continued and gratifying success. It soon came to be recognized as one of the leading institutions of the city, and under its liberal plan of government it has found favor and support in all christian circles. It is now referred to as one corporation with four branches, i. e.: The Central branch, corner of State and Dwight streets; the Railroad branch, No. 227 Main street; the West Side branch, and the Student's branch, at the training school on Alden street.

During the twenty-five years following the first attempt to found an association in the city, the endeavors of the interested persons were opposed by many obstacles, some of which were unsurmountable, but later efforts in the same direction have been rewarded with gratifying success. On May 5, 1894, the association laid the corner-stone of the splendid Y. M. C. A. building on State street, and on March 19, 1895, the completed structure was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. The building cost about $130,000.

The association now has a total membership of 553 men and 176 boys, or an aggregate of 729 members. The officers and directors in 1901 are as follows: Jonathan Barnes, president; Henry H. Bowman, vice-president; Herbert C. Hastings, recording secretary; Ralph P. Alden, treasurer; William Knowles Cooper, general secretary. Board of directors, W. P. Draper, Jonathan Barnes, G. D. Chamberlain, L. C. Haynes, Charles H. Burnham, Wm. A. Lincoln, Ralph P. Alden, T. D. Potter, H. C. Hastings, H. H. Bowman, C. C. Lewis, W. W. Tapley, H. A. King, Mase S. Southworth, C. A. Crocker, F. W. Lathrop, H. E. Flint, W. F. Andrews, Charles Jacobus, John McFethries.

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In the early part of the year in which was celebrated the centennial of American independence a number of interested citizens of Springfield and its locality began to discuss the subject of forming a historical society whose purpose should be "to procure and preserve whatever may relate to the natural, civil, military, literary, ecclesiastical and genealogical history of the country, and especially of the territory included in the Connecticut valley."

Several preliminary meetings were held for free discussion of the subject, and on November 1, 1876, the articles of association of the Connecticut Valley Historical society were duly signed by Henry Morris, William Rice, Samuel Bowles, Samuel G. Buckingham, Augustus Lord Soule, Henry S. Lee, Charles Marsh, Homer Merriam, E. A. Reed, Joseph C. Pynchon and William L. Smith. On April 21 the organizers adopted by-laws for the regulation of the society and elected the first board of officers, viz.: Henry Morris, president; Augustus L. Soule, William L. Smith, Samuel Bowles, vice-presidents; William Rice, clerk and treasurer; S. G. Buckingham, Homer Merriam, E. A. Reed, Joseph Pynchon, Henry S. Lee, Charles Marsh, executive committee.

Thus was perfected the organization of what was intended to be one of the most beneficial historical, social and literary societies in the valley region and for a time the zeal of its members and the public approval seemed to indicate a permanent and healthful existence in all later years. On May 22, 1876, the membership was increased by 53 persons, and in September following 46 more names were placed on the rolls. For nearly five years a lively interest was manifested in the affairs of the society, after which the records show evidences of decline in the frequent notings of "no quorum." No meetings were held from 1882 to 1889, during which period the society lay dormant; but in the latter year a radical reorganization was effected, the by-laws were amended and re-adopted, and a new membership of more than 250 persons was established. Instead of three vice-presi-

dents, the number was increased to thirteen, and they were selected from various towns of this county and Hampshire and also from the neighboring towns in Connecticut.

The reorganization having been accomplished the society was again established upon an apparently secure basis, but in the course of a few years the interest again began to abate and there came various omissions of meetings. However, during these years the society succeeded in collecting a large amount of valuable historical material and published one excellent volume; and while a majority of the members became somewhat indifferent to the success and permanency of the institution, a few active and willing spirits maintained and supported it for years. No regular meetings were held between 1896 and 1901, when, in the latter year, a second revival was accomplished through the efforts of a few loyal members. The purposes of the society certainly are commendable and its work should be given the hearty support of every loyal son and daughter of the entire region of the Connecticut valley.

The officers of the society since its organization have been as follows:

1876—Henry Morris, president; A. L. Soule, Wm. L. Smith, Samuel Bowles, vice-presidents; Wm. Rice, clerk and treasurer.

1877—Henry Morris, president; A. L. Soule, Samuel O. Lamb, Samuel T. Spaulding, vice-presidents; Wm. Rice, clerk and treasurer.

1878-1888—Henry Morris, president; A. L. Soule, S. O. Lamb, Rev. L. Clark Seelye, vice-presidents; Wm. Rice, clerk and treasurer.

1889-90—Rev. Dr. Samuel G. Buckingham, president; Geo. D. Robinson, E. B. Gillett, W. B. C. Pearsons, L. Clark Seelye, George M. Steele, Levi Stockbridge, S. O. Lamb, Charles L. Gardner, J. W. Harding, Wm. N. Flynt, R. O. Dwight, Henry F. Brown, H. S. Sheldon, vice-presidents; Edward Morris, clerk; Charles Marsh, treasurer; A. H. Kirkham, cor. sec.

1891—Samuel G. Buckingham, president; same as in previous year, vice-presidents; Edward Morris, clerk; A. H. Kirkham, corresponding secretary and treasurer.

1892-93—Samuel G. Buckingham, president; Wm. S. Shurtleff, first, Wm. Rice, second, Clark W. Bryan, third vice-president; Edward Morris, clerk; J. Stuart Kirkham, treasurer; A. H. Kirkham, corresponding secretary.

1894—William S. Shurtleff, president; S. G. Buckingham, Clark W. Bryan, Alfred M. Copeland, vice-presidents; W. F. Adams, clerk; J. Stuart Kirkham, treasurer; A. H. Kirkham, corresponding secretary.

1895—William S. Shurtleff, president; S. G. Buckingham, Clark W. Bryan, Alfred M. Copeland, vice-presidents; W. F. Adams, clerk; A. H. Kirkham, treasurer; Harry A. Wright, corresponding secretary.

1896-1900—Alfred M. Copeland, president; Samuel G. Buckingham, Clark W. Bryan, John L. Rice, vice-presidents; W. F. Adams, clerk; Harry A. Wright, treasurer; A. H. Kirkham, corresponding secretary.

1901—Alfred M. Copeland, president; John L. Rice, Samuel Bowles, Edward P. Chapin, vice-presidents; William C. Stone, clerk and treasurer; Albert H. Kirkham, corresponding secretary; W. F. Adams, Harry A. Wright, Frank G. Tobey, Frederick H. Stebbins, Mrs. Charlotte E. Warner, Miss Mary A. Booth, executive committee.

CHAPTER VI

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—BOARD OF TRADE

In the early part of 1890 several business men in informal conversation were discussing the probable benefits to be derived from an organization whose purpose should be to promote commercial and manufacturing interests in the city, and in the course of a few days, as a result of the meeting, the following circular was addressed to many citizens:

"Sir:—Your presence is earnestly desired at the old Grand Army Hall, in the Massachusetts Life Insurance building, No.

413 Main street, on Monday, March 3, at 7.30 p. m., for the purpose of considering the desirability of forming a Board of Trade or Commercial Club.

"Such an organization is most imperatively needed in our community, and in not having it, we are at present in the rear rank of the progressive municipalities of the country. *Do not fail to attend.* Respectfully,

"E. P. Chapin, W. E. Wright, H. P. Stone, Elisha Morgan, E. H. Lathrop."

The meeting was held, the subject in hand was thoroughly discussed, and a committee was appointed to consider and report at a future meeting a plan of permanent organization. The committee comprised Harlan P. Stone, Clark W. Bryan, George M. Stearns, William E. Wright, Elisha Morgan, Edward S. Bradford, Henry S. Hyde, L. S. Stowe, Edward P. Chapin, A. N. Mayo, Noyes W. Fisk, Henry M. Phillips, N. C. Newell, A. D. Nason and E. B. Maynard, from whom Messrs. Hyde, Chapin, Fisk, Stearns and Stone were made a sub-committee to report on scope and plan.

The necessary preliminaries having been settled, a general meeting of business men of the city was held March 19, at which time it was determined to establish a corporate body; and thereafter, on March 31, the Springfield Board of Trade was incorporated under the laws of the state. At a meeting held April 7 nearly 300 memberships were created, and on the next day a board of directors was chosen.

As is defined in the by-laws the purpose of the board is "To establish a body of recognized authority to deal with matters of interest to the business men of Springfield, and to the general public; to forward the prosperity of the mercantile and manufacturing community; and to procure and spread such information as will advance and elevate commercial dealings, and extend just methods of business by the establishment and maintenance of a place for business and social meetings."

Under its plan of government, the general body of the association chooses a board of fifteen directors, in which is vested the control of the business policy, and also the authority to designate the annual officers of the board.

For more than ten years the Springfield board of trade has been an active factor for good in mercantile and manufacturing circles in the city. Its affairs always have been in prudent, safe hands, and much of the prosperity which has come to the city during that period is directly traceable to the excellent business capacity and sound judgment of the men who have comprised the board of officers and directors. To enumerate in detail the many benefits thus derived would require more space than is at our disposal, yet all business men in the city are aware of the importance and value of the board of trade as a factor in municipal history.

Since the organization the officiary of the board has been as follows:

1890—Harlan P. Stone, president; Elisha B. Maynard, Henry S. Hyde, vice-presidents; George M. Stearns, secretary and treasurer; John W. Drown, assistant secretary; Harlan P. Stone, R. F. Hawkins, Edward P. Chapin, A. A. Packard, Elisha Morgan, Clark W. Bryan, Henry M. Phillips, W. E. Wright, E. B. Maynard, A. D. Nason, George M. Stearns, H. S. Hyde, A. N. Mayo, Noyes W. Fisk, E. H. Lathrop, directors.

1891—O. S. Greenleaf, president; E. B. Maynard, Edward S. Brewer, vice-presidents; George M. Stearns, treasurer; John W. Drown, secretary; O. S. Greenleaf, E. B. Maynard, E. S. Brewer, G. M. Stearns, Charles H. Parsons, H. M. Phillips, A. H. Overman, Clark W. Bryan, A. N. Mayo, R. F. Hawkins, W. E. Wright, A. D. Nason, L. C. Hyde, H. P. Stone, Wm. W. More, directors.

1892—O. S. Greenleaf, president; Clark W. Bryan, Edward S. Brewer, vice-presidents; Wm. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; Edward P. Chapin, auditor; O. S. Greenleaf, W. E. Wright, A. H. Overman, E. S. Brewer, L. C. Hyde, H. P. Stone, T. L. Haynes, H. M. Phillips, A. D. Nason, Clark W. Bryan, R. F. Hawkins, E. P. Chapin, George Nye, Peter Murray, A. B. Wallace, directors.

1893—Charles Hall, president; Clark W. Bryan, Louis C. Hyde, vice-presidents; Wm. W. More, treasurer; Wm. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; E. P. Chapin, auditor; O. S. Greenleaf,

Elijah Belding, Lyman P. Briggs, A. J. Wright, L. C. Hyde, W. O. Day, T. L. Haynes, H. M. Phillips, Charles Hall, Clark W. Bryan, Francis D. Foot, Charles VanVlack, George Nye, jr., Peter Murray, A. B. Wallace, directors.

1894—James T. Abbe, president; Clark W. Bryan, Louis C. Hyde, vice-presidents; Wm. W. More, treasurer; Wm. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; Edwin A. Carter, auditor; Charles Hall, O. S. Greenleaf, James T. Abbe, Clark W. Bryan, A. B. Wallace, L. C. Hyde, John S. Sanderson, Charles VanVlack, T. L. Haynes, Lyman P. Briggs, Peter Murray, W. O. Day, Francis D. Foot, John West, N. D. Winter, directors.

1895—Newrie D. Winter, president; Charles VanVlack, John S. Sanderson, vice-presidents; Wm. W. More, treasurer; Wm. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; Edwin A. Carter, auditor; N. D. Winter, Charles Hall, Charles VanVlack, T. L. Haynes, L. P. Briggs, J. S. Sanderson, H. P. Stone, E. C. Rogers, H. C. Rowley, R. W. Day, Frederick Harris, Charles C. Lewis, H. G. Gilmore, C. C. Spellman, P. H. Potter, directors.

1896—John Olmsted, president; Francke W. Dickinson, H. C. Rowley, vice-presidents; W. W. More, treasurer; W. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; E. A. Carter, auditor; John Olmsted, H. C. Rowley, B. D. Rising, H. G. Gilmore, J. P. Falt, E. C. Rogers, H. H. Bowman, T. W. Leete, F. W. Dickinson, P. H. Potter, N. D. Winter, D. H. Brigham, James F. Bidwell, C. C. Spellman, L. Z. Cutler, directors.

1897—Francke W. Dickinson, president; Edward C. Rogers, Henry H. Bowman, vice-presidents; W. W. More, treasurer; W. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; Edwin A. Carter, auditor; John Olmsted, H. H. Bowman, B. D. Rising, F. W. Dickinson, J. P. Falt, David Allen Reed, Charles E. Hoag, E. C. Rogers, T. W. Leete, P. H. Potter, Leroy Z. Cutler, Samuel D. Sherwood, David E. Taylor, Nathan D. Bill, Judson Strong, jr., directors.

1898—Theodore W. Leete, president; William W. More, Henry E. Marsh, vice-presidents; Louis C. Hyde, treasurer; Wm. A. Webster, clerk and secretary; Edwin A. Carter, auditor; John Olmsted, F. W. Dickinson, H. H. Bowman, T. W. Leete, D. A. Reed, L. Z. Cutler, S. D. Sherwood, D. E. Taylor, Judson Strong,

jr., Wm. W. More, H. W. Marsh, E. O. Clark, Ralph W. Ellis, Henry J. Perkins, R. Hale Smith, directors.

1899—Theodore W. Leete, president; Henry E. Marsh, Mase S. Southworth, vice-presidents; L. C. Hyde, treasurer; Frederick S. Sibley, clerk and secretary; George H. Kemater, auditor; T. W. Leete, H. E. Marsh, M. S. Southworth, R. H. Smith, H. J. Perkins, H. H. Bowman, S. D. Sherwood, E. O. Clark, D. E. Taylor, Lewis F. Carr, Walter G. Morse, Charles A. Stone, Stanford L. Haynes, Charles D. Reid, William E. Wright, directors.

1900—Theodore W. Leete, president; Mase S. Southworth, Henry E. Marsh, vice-presidents; Louis C. Hyde, treasurer; Fred S. Sibley, clerk and secretary; George H. Kemater, auditor; T. W. Leete, M. S. Southworth, H. E. Marsh, R. Hale Smith, Wm. E. Wright, E. O. Clark, Charles D. Reid, W. G. Morse, C. A. Stone, S. L. Haynes, William P. Hayes, Everett H. Barney, Azel A. Packard, Eliphalet T. Tifft, Charles A. Royce, directors.

1901—Henry E. Marsh, president; Charles D. Reid, Charles A. Stone, vice-presidents; Louis C. Hyde, treasurer; Frederick S. Sibley, clerk and secretary; George H. Kemater, auditor; Henry E. Marsh, Charles D. Reid, Charles A. Stone, Theodore W. Leete, Mase S. Southworth, William P. Hayes, Stanford L. Haynes, Everett H. Barney, Eliphalet T. Tifft, Charles A. Royce, Charles C. Lewis, Herbert C. Puffer, Henry A. King, William H. Baush, James J. Sullivan, directors.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

One of the surest indications of a healthful condition of business affairs in any city is in the number of its banking houses. Ordinarily cities of less than 65,000 population do not maintain fifteen regular corporate banks, yet in Springfield this condition obtains and, what is more, each of these institutions is planted on a firm foundation. The first bank opened here is yet in operation and its history has been an unbroken record of business prosperity, although the original name is now changed; and in the same manner the most recently organized banking house of the city is also in a flourishing condition notwithstanding the numerous similar institutions with which it must compete in

order to do business. As a matter of fact Springfield, in its business history, is an exceptional city and draws a vast amount of trade in all commercial and industrial lines from beyond its own corporate limits. The truth of this statement is readily apparent to the casual observer of affairs, while to one who takes occasion to inquire closely into business conditions the magnitude and extent of local business operations is surprising and at times almost unaccountable. Naturally, in the course of events disasters have overtaken and caused the downfall of a few banks in the city, but these occurrences are specially noticeable for their infrequency, and on final liquidation serious losses generally have been averted.

The Springfield bank, the pioneer institution of its character in the city (then town), was incorporated by an act of the legislature passed February 4, 1814, with an original capital of $200,000, and with authority to continue business until October 1, 1831. The state reserved the right to subscribe to $50,000 of the capital stock, also to borrow money from the bank, not exceeding $20,000 at any one time. The incorporators were Jonathan Dwight, John Hooker, George Bliss, James Byers, James S. Dwight, Justin Ely, Jonathan Dwight, jr., Moses Bliss, jr., Edward Pynchon and Oliver B. Morris. Subsequent to the original act the legislature frequently changed the amount of the capital stock, reducing it at one time to $100,000 and eventually increasing it to $250,000.

The corporation was fully organized at a meeting of stockholders held May 12, 1814, at Jeremy Warriner's tavern. Jonathan Dwight, Jonathan Dwight, jr., James Byers, John Hooker and Moses Bliss were chosen directors. The first president was Jonathan Dwight, and the first cashier was Edward Pynchon. The bank opened its doors for business in a building on State street, and remained in that location until 1866, when, having been reorganized under the national banking act of 1863, it was removed to the corner of Main street and Townsley avenue, the site now occupied by the successor institution, the Second National bank of Springfield. During the period of its history under the state law, the old Springfield bank was one of the

strongest and most reliable financial institutions in the Connecticut valley, and when after almost forty years of successful operation it was converted into a national bank its old-time record survived in the memory of business men and it was looked upon with much favor in local circles.

The presidents of the old bank down to 1863 were Jonathan Dwight, 1814-17; John Hooker, 1817-19; (no record from 1819 to 1833); James Byers, 1833-36; John Howard, 1836-49; Benjamin Day, 1849-56; Edward A. Morris, 1856-59; Henry Alexander, 1859-63. The cashiers for the same period were Edward Pynchon, 1814-17; Moses Bliss and Benjamin Day, from 1817 to 1823; John Howard, 1823-36; Lewis Warriner, 1836-63.

The Second National bank, No. 181, was the direct outgrowth of the Springfield bank, the latter having been reorganized in 1863 in conformity to the provisions of the act of congress authorizing national banks. Its capital was, and still is, $300,000, and from the time of reorganization to the present day it has been regarded as one of the safest and most substantial financial institutions in the county. According to the most recent published report of its condition the bank has assets of the value of more than $1,500,000, a surplus fund of $150,000, and an undivided profit account of over $45,000.

The succession of presidents of the Second National bank since 1863 is as follows: Henry Alexander, 1863-78; Alfred Rowe, 1878-87; Albert T. Folsom, 1887-93; Gurdon Bill, 1893-1900; Walter G. Morse, 1900- —. The cashiers for the same period have been Lewis Warriner, 1863-80; Harry P. Piper, 1880-81; Charles H. Churchill, 1881—now in office. Directors, 1901, Gurdon Bill, Dwight O. Gilmore, Theodore W. Leete, Walter G. Morse, Henry M. Phillips, William P. Porter, Frank C. Rice, George A. Russell, Horace P. Wright.

The Chicopee bank, the second banking institution in Springfield, was incorporated April 9, 1836, with $200,000 capital, by Elisha Edwards, William Bryant, Albert Morgan, and their associates. Its organization was perfected at a meeting held in Jeremy Warriner's famous hostelry, and on October 30 its doors were opened for business with George Bliss, president, and Henry

Seymour, cashier. The first directors were George Bliss, Elisha Edwards, William Bryant, Sable Rogers, James Brewer, Albert Morgan, Edward A. Morris, Wells Lathrop and William Dwight.

The bank began business at the corner of Main and Elm streets, where from 1836 to 1865 it was in the heart of the mercantile district of the town and subsequent city. The successor institution, the Chicopee National bank, occupies the same corner, although the old building of early years has been replaced with one of more modern construction and architecture. From the beginning of its history the Chicopee bank has been successful in its business operations and its managing officers have been chosen from the best material at the command of the directors. Previous to the reorganization in 1865 the presidents were George Bliss, 1836-46, and Philo Wilcox, 1846-65. For the same period the cashiers were Henry Seymour, 1836-41; B. Frank Warner, 1841-56; Thomas Warner, jr., 1856-65.

The Chicopee National bank, No. 464 (revised No. 466), successor to the Chicopee bank, the state institution, was incorporated in March, 1865, under the act of congress authorizing the organization of national banks in the several states. The change was one of character of the corporation rather than in business policy of the old bank, and nearly all the directors of the former were re-elected. The personnel of the new board was as follows: Jas. D. Brewer, Philo F. Wilcox, Henry Fuller, jr., Gad O. Bliss, Elijah W. Bliss, Horace Smith and Henry S. Lee. The new officers were James D. Brewer, president, and Thomas Warner, cashier. The subsequent presidents have been Henry S. Lee, 1866-69; Henry Fuller, jr., 1869-87; Horace Smith, 1887-9; A. J. McIntosh, March, 1893—now president. The cashiers have been Thomas Warner, 1865-79; and Arthur B. West, 1879—now cashier.

The Chicopee bank (by this name it has been known in Springfield business circles for more than sixty-five years) has long been regarded as one of the sound financial institutions of the city, and deservedly has enjoyed a successful and healthful business career. During the period of its history as a state bank the capital was occasionally changed to meet new conditions, but

never at any time was the soundness of the institution brought into question. The present paid in capital is $400,000, and the deposit account, both in amount and number of depositors, compares favorably with that of any bank in the city. The present surplus fund aggregates $150,000, and about $55,000 stands credited to the undivided profit account. The present officers of the bank are A. J. McIntosh, president; Arthur B. West, cashier; Henry S. Lee, George L. Wright, Arthur B. West, A. J. McIntosh, George S. Taylor and B. D. Rising, directors.

The Agawam bank, predecessor institution to the Agawam National bank, was incorporated by an act of the legislature passed February 12, 1846, the corporators being Chester W. Chapin, Addison Ware and Edmund Freeman. The original capital was $100,000, and was increased in 1848 to $200,000, and to $300,000 in 1857. The act provided that the bank should be located and maintained within twenty-five rods, north or south, of the Western railroad in Springfield, which fact in a measure may account for the continuous location of the bank in the vicinity of the railroad for more than half a century. The principal reason that has impelled the directors to remain in this locality is in the fact that the surroundings are entirely congenial, and in this busy center of trade and traffic the bank has become one of the fixed and leading institutions.

The first board of directors comprised Chester W. Chapin, Horatio Lyon, Wells Southworth, Albert Morgan, J. B. Vinton, James Barnes, Benjamin Day, Willis Phelps and Addison Ware. Mr. Chapin was the first president and Frederick S. Bailey the first cashier. Mr. Chapin was continued in office until 1850, when Albert Morgan succeeded him. The latter died in 1856 and was succeeded by Thomas Stebbins, who continued until the election of Marvin Chapin in 1862. Mr. Chapin was president throughout the reorganization period and until 1870, when he declined a re-election. Mr. Bailey as cashier and active officer of the bank had a long and honorable service in that capacity, and on his retirement was succeeded by the present cashier, W. M. Willard.

The Agawam National bank, No. 1,055, was organized in May, 1865, with a paid-in capital of $300,000, and an authorized

capital of $500,000. When the reorganization was effected there was no change in the officers and board of directors. On Mr. Chapin's retirement from the presidency in 1870, Henry S. Hyde was elected his successor and was continued at the head of the bank until January, 1901, when he retired and was succeeded by Mr. McGregory.

From the time it was first established in 1846 to the present day the Agawam bank, state and national, has held a high standing in financial circles in New England, and it always has been regarded as a safe and well managed institution. The present officers are H. W. McGregory, president; W. M. Willard, cashier; H. W. McGregory, George Nye, jr., William H. Chapin, Charles A. Nichols, Mase S. Southworth, Lewis J. Powers and Henry M. Brewster, directors.

The Western bank, of Springfield, was incorporated by an act of the legislature passed May 1, 1849, the corporators, who also were its guiding spirits throughout its brief career, being Eliphalet Trask, Samuel Bailey, Samuel Day, and their associates. The original capital was $100,000, the amount being increased in 1850 by an additional $150,000.

The bank began business under favorable circumstances and was well officered. Its first and only president was Caleb Rice, while Charles P. Bissell was the first cashier. He was succeeded by George P. Bissell, and the latter, in turn, by J. L. Warriner. Among the other prominent men who were at some time identified with the business affairs of the bank there may be recalled the names of Eliphalet Trask, Edmund Freeman, H. N. Case, W. N. Flynt, William Rice, Willis Phelps, W. C. Sturtevant, Samuel S. Day, William Birnie, Chauncey L. Covell and others, who served in the capacity of directors. Eventually, however, the bank became involved in loans to western railroads and other enterprises, and failing in an emergency to realize on its securities it was forced to suspend.

The John Hancock bank was incorporated by an act of the legislature passed April 6, 1850, the corporators being James W. Crooks, James M. Thompson, Walter H. Bowdoin and Solomon Hatch, who are remembered by our older citizens as four of the

foremost men of the town in their time, and whose connection with the organization of the bank inspired confidence in the enterprise on the part of the public. The original capital was $100,000, but afterward the amount was increased to $150,000. The bank was organized at a meeting held at the old Armory house, on the hill, for this was distinctively an institution of that locality, the charter itself providing that it be established on the south side of State street "on the hill, near the armory." In 1857 the legislature authorized its removal to "some more convenient location," and accordingly in the same year the concern was established in its present quarters on Main street.

Although Mr. Crooks was the guiding spirit of the enterprise even to the extent of suggesting its name, he was too much occupied with other business affairs to assume its management, therefore Colonel Thompson was chosen president, and Edmund D. Chapin, the present president, was made cashier. The first board of directors included such well known business men as Mr. Crooks, Col. Thompson, W. H. Bowdoin, Solomon Hatch, Edward F. Moseley, Pliny Cadwell, Alexander H. Avery and Roger S. Moore. For eight years the bank did business on the hill, and then it was resolved to move nearer the active center of trade on Main street. This being accomplished the old bank's career was continued with gratifying success to its stockholders until 1865, when a reorganization under the national banking act was effected. Col. Thompson was president until 1863, when he was succeeded by Roger S. Moore. Mr. Chapin was cashier of the state bank throughout the period of its existence and for several years after it was reorganized as a national bank.

The John Hancock National bank, No. 982, was organized in 1865 with $150,000 capital stock (subsequently increased to $250,000) and since that time it has been one of the leading financial institutions of the city. Mr. Moore was elected its first president and served in that capacity until 1890, when he was succeeded by Edmund D. Chapin, who for many years has been regarded as the mainstay of the bank, and its active managing officer. When Mr. Chapin became president E. D. Metcalf was chosen vice-president and E. Dudley Chapin was made cashier.

This personnel of the officiary has been changed but little in later years.

A glance at the bank report discloses a healthful condition of affairs in connection with the John Hancock bank. Its policy for years has been conservative, therefore safe and prudent, hence the confidence felt in its management by the business public. The last report of its condition shows a surplus and undivided profit account of more than $90,000, and a total deposit account of more than $400,000. The present officers and directors are Edmund D. Chapin, president; E. Dudley Chapin, cashier; Edmund D. Chapin, John Kimberly, Edward C. Rogers, L. Z. Cutler, Edward H. Wilkins and E. Dudley Chapin, directors.

The Pynchon bank was incorporated under the state laws relating to banks, in 1853, and was established in a location at the southern end of the business center of the city at that time. The state was not wholly in favor of granting bank charters indiscriminately and it was necessary that incorporators furnish some logical reason for founding their institution, and the need thereof. The old Agawam bank was started within twenty rods of the Western railroad depot, to accommodate trade in that vicinity; the John Hancock bank was started on the hill, near the armory, where trade then was increasing; and in the same manner the Pynchon bank was intended to accommodate the merchants and other business interests in the south part of the city, near the corner of State street.

Among the prominent men interested in founding the bank were Willis Phelps, Homer Foot, "Gov." Beach, George Merriam, Charles Merriam, J. B. Rumrill, Col. Case, Samuel Bowles and William Stowe, each of whose names is frequently mentioned elsewhere in connection with events of early city business history. H. N. Case—Col. Case—was the first president, and Henry Alexander, jr., was the first cashier. In 1865 the bank was reorganized as the Pynchon National bank, No. 987, and in 1869 the capital was increased from $150,000 to $200,000.

The presidents of the Pynchon bank, both state and national, were H. N. Case, 1853-58; James Kirkham, 1858-62; H. N. Case,

1862-89; Charles Marsh, 1889-91; Edward D. Chapin, 1891-1901. During the same period the cashiers were Henry Alexander, jr., 1853-58; Frederick H. Harris, 1858-63; James D. Safford, 1863-66; Charles Marsh, 1866-89; George R. Bond, 1889-1901.

For almost half a century the Pynchon bank was numbered among the solid financial institutions of Springfield, and deservedly enjoyed the confidence of the public, as well as a large patronage; but on June 24, 1901, owing to certain investments on which immediate returns were not possible, the comptroller of the currency ordered a suspension of business. At that time the bank's capital was $200,000 and its surplus was $100,000. The officers and directors in 1901 were Edward P. Chapin, president; George R. Bond, cashier; Edward P. Chapin, H. C. Rowley, John S. Sanderson, James T. Abbe, William O. Day, Charles C. Lewis and George R. Bond, directors.

The First National bank, No. 14, of Springfield, was chartered in 1863, and its founders are said to have constituted the first body of business men in the entire country to apply for a charter after the national banking act went into effect. However, other applications were received first, hence in the numerical order this bank was given the number 14. It was organized February 24, 1863, with $150,000 capital, the amount being increased to $300,000 in 1864, and to $400,000 in 1871. The first directors were James Kirkham, Henry Morris, Orick H. Greenleaf, Daniel B. Wesson, Samuel Norris, W. K. Baker and George E. Howard.

On the organization of the board, Mr. Kirkham was elected president, and from that time until his death in February, 1893, he was at the head of the bank and its chief managing officer. In March following John Olmsted was elected president and still serves in that capacity. His successful business career is too well known in Springfield to need mention here, and the reader only has to refer to the institutions of the city to ascertain how he has been a factor in local events. Julius H. Appleton was the first cashier, being succeeded in 1866 by James D. Safford, who, in turn, was succeeded in 1872 by Dustin A. Folsom, the present cashier and active officer of the bank.

The First National bank is one of the solid financial institutions of the Connecticut valley in Massachusetts, and in banking circles in New England it always has held an enviable standing; and its affairs never were more prosperous than at the present time. Its capital is $400,000; surplus, $80,000; undivided profits, $32,753. The officers and directors are as follows: John Olmsted, president; Dustin A. Folsom, cashier; F. L. Safford, assistant cashier; John Olmsted, John West, Peter Murray, Henry J. Beebe, Harlan P. Stone, Alfred N. Mayo, James W. Kirkham, and B. Frank Steele, directors.

The Third National bank of Springfield, No. 308, in the numerical succession, and second of the original national banks in this city, was organized in 1864, under the immediate supervision of George Walker, who in later years attained a standing of prominence in financial circles both in this country and in Europe. The bank was formally organized February 20, 1864, with $500,000 capital, and opened its doors for business with these officers and directors: George Walker, president; Frederick H. Harris, cashier; George Walker, John L. King, John Wells, Joseph C. Parsons, Emerson Gaylord, Edmund Freeman, Clark W. Bryan, Joseph Carew and Aaron Bagg, directors.

Mr. Walker continued at the head of the bank until 1876, when he was succeeded by Joseph C. Parsons. On the death of the latter in 1886, Frederick H. Harris, the former cashier (and who in one capacity or another has been identified with banking history in the city since 1839) was elected president and still holds that relation to the institution. Frederick Harris, son of the president, was appointed assistant cashier in 1873, and on the election of his father to the presidency, he was chosen cashier, which position he still holds.

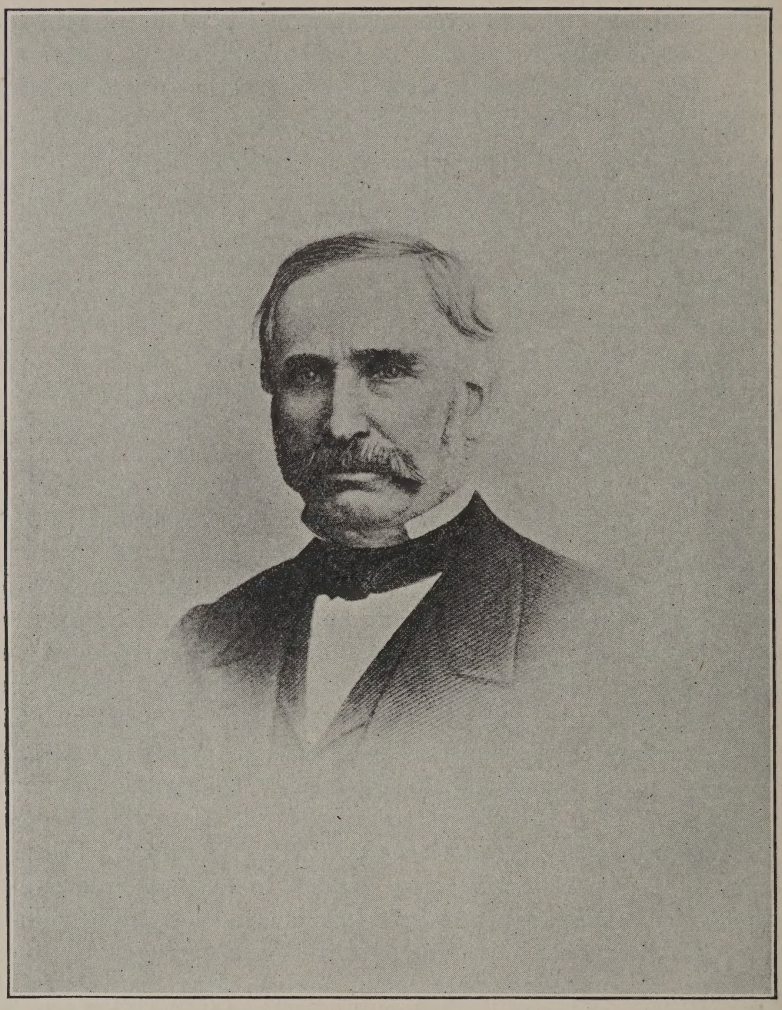
Except as one board of officers has succeeded another in the evolution of time and events, there has been little change in the personnel of the management of the Third National bank. When the institution was founded it at once became a prominent factor in the financial history of the city, and from that time its progress has been onward until it came to be regarded as one of the safest banking houses in New England. For many years it has

been a depository for government funds, and at various times its disbursements for the armory pay-rolls has been exceedingly large. The building at the corner of Main and Hillman streets was erected in 1875, and even now it is numbered among the more substantial structures of the city. The building committee, under whose supervision the work of construction was done, comprised Henry A. Gould, James H. Newton and Joseph Carew.

The Third National bank has a capital of $500,000, a surplus of $400,000, an undivided profit account of more than $66,000, and a total deposit account of over $1,600,000. In a large degree this gratifying success was due to the capacity of Mr. Walker, yet since his death the conduct of the business has been in equally reliable hands in his successor. At the present time the officers and directors of the bank are as follows: Frederick H. Harris, president; Frederick Harris, cashier; Frederick H. Harris, Henry A. Gould, J. S. McElwain (Holyoke), Charles R. Ladd, Aaron Bagg, jr., A. W. Damon and Frederick Harris, directors.

The Chapin National bank was first incorporated in 1872 under the state laws, as the Chapin Banking and Trust company, and was named in allusion to Chester W. Chapin, its founder and principal stockholder, and also one of Springfield's foremost business men for many years. Indeed, it is doubtful if any other man was more closely identified with vast and varied business interests in the city and county than was Mr. Chapin. The first directors of the banking and trust company were Chester W. Chapin, William K. Baker, James M. Thompson, James A. Rumrill, John B. Stebbins, Daniel L. Harris, Henry S. Lee, Geo. C. Fisk, Charles O. Russell and W. H. Wilkinson. (Having mentioned Mr. Chapin's close relation to business interests in the city, it is also proper to state in this connection that no bank previously organized in Springfield had a stronger board of directors than the original Chapin bank.) Mr. Chapin was the first president, Mr. Baker the first vice-president, and James D. Safford the first cashier.

Thus officered and with a capital of $500,000, the bank opened its doors for business and in the course of a few years it



Chester W. Chapin

was recognized as one of the most successful financial institutions of the city. There was little change in the officiary of the board of directors before 1879, when James A. Rumrill succeeded Mr. Chapin in the presidency, and William F. Callender, who had been teller in the bank since it was started, was made cashier in place of Mr. Safford. On October 1, 1879, the state charter was surrendered and the bank was reorganized under the national banking act as the Chapin National bank, No. 2,435.

From the time the Chapin bank began business it has been a strong financial institution, always popular with the public, well managed and officered, yet the best results have been achieved since the reorganization of 1879. In its present condition the bank has a capital of $500,000, a surplus of $100,000, and an undivided profit account of $65,000. The deposit account aggregates over $1,300,000. The officers and directors are William F. Callender, president, who was elected to that office June 3, 1897, succeeding Mr. Baker; George R. Yerrall, cashier, elected April 5, 1893, succeeding Mr. Callender, who was made vice-president at that time; James A. Rumrill, Edward S. Bradford, Samuel R. Whiting, William F. Callender, Charles C. Jenks, Chester W. Bliss, Dr. Theodore F. Breck and George R. Yerrall, directors.

The City National bank of Springfield, No. 2,433, was organized September 9, 1879, with $250,000 capital, and with James D. Safford (formerly cashier of the Chapin banking and trust company) as president, and Henry H. Bowman (now president of the Springfield National bank) as cashier. The first directors were James M. Thompson, John B. Stebbins, Marcus P. Knowlton, Nelson C. Newell, George B. Holbrook and James D. Safford.

Throughout the period of its history Mr. Safford has been president and active managing officer of the bank, and the certain success achieved by the institution is largely due to his efforts. Mr. Bowman was cashier until succeeded by Edwin A. Carter, in January, 1893, and the latter was, in turn, succeeded in 1900 by William E. Gilbert, the present cashier.

The managers of the bank at the outset adopted a liberal policy, and its affairs always have been conducted in accordance with progressive business methods, hence its success and the

popular standing it has in business circles in the city. According to the latest published report of its condition, the bank has a surplus and undivided account of over $160,000, and a deposit account of more than $1,163,000.

The present officers and directors are as follows: James D. Safford, president; William E. Gilbert, cashier; Marcus P. Knowlton, Nelson C. Newell, Luke S. Stowe, Lewis F. Carr, Edwin A. Carter, James B. Carroll and James D. Safford, directors.

The Springfield National bank, the youngest of the city's financial institutions established under federal laws, was organized May 6, 1893, with a capital of $200,000, but notwithstanding this it is unquestionably one of the strongest banks in New England. Eight years of business shows an accumulated surplus of $200,000, undivided profits amounting to more that $61,000, and a deposit account of over $2,243,000. The original officers (Henry H. Bowman, president; George B. Holbrook, vice-president; and Ralph P. Alden, cashier) are still in their respective positions, and in the personnel of the board of directors there has been little change. W. C. King, B. D. Rising and A. H. Overman, who were members of the first board are not now of the number. The present directors are Robert W. Day, Ralph W. Ellis, W. D. Kinsman, Franklin Pierce, F. G. Tobey, Michael Dunn, George B. Holbrook, C. A. Crocker, George W. Tapley, Henry H. Bowman and Ralph P. Alden.

The Springfield Safe Deposit and Trust company, the oldest banking concern of the city doing business under state laws, and also one of the most substantial institutions of its kind in the entire region, was organized in December, 1885, and opened its doors for business in July, 1886. The original charter was granted in 1873 to Henry Alexander, jr., Smith R. Phillips, Charles O. Chapin, Samuel B. Spooner and Samuel Palmer, but as no organization was effected under the charter within the required time the company forfeited its rights and subsequent legislation was necessary to revive it.

The first board of directors, chosen in 1885, comprised J. G. McIntosh, Samuel Bigelow, C. H. Haywood, Edwin McElwain,

Nathan D. Bill, A. B. Wallace, Charles D. Rood, J. S. Hurlbut, Timothy Merrick, Rodney Wallace, William Skinner, W. L. Brown, J. S. McElwain, Joseph Metcalf, G. H. Newman, J. L. Warriner and Samuel Blaisdell. The first officers were J. G. McIntosh, president; W. A. Lincoln, treasurer; Timothy Merrick, Samuel Bigelow, A. B. Wallace, William Skinner and Joseph Metcalf, executive committee. The original capital of $300,000 was subsequently increased to $500,000, and although a safe deposit and trust company within the strict interpretation of the name, the institution always has done a general banking business, and, except in the issue of currency, has greater power than is extended to national banks.

For more than fifteen years the Springfield Safe Deposit and Trust company has been an important factor in the business history of the city and state. Its affairs always have been well managed and it has gained especial popularity in mercantile and manufacturing circles. As has been stated, the company's capital is $500,000, the surplus and undivided profit account aggregates more than $311,000, and its deposit account is above $2,700,000. The total assets are more than $3,544,000.

The present officers of the company are J. G. McIntosh, president; W. A. Lincoln, vice-president; George H. Kemater, treasurer; J. G. McIntosh, A. B. Wallace, Joseph Metcalf, Samuel Bigelow, W. H. Heywood, John E. Stevens, Edwin McElwain, Luke Corcoran, A. A. Marston, Albert D. Nason, J. Searle Hurlbut and W. A. Lincoln, directors.

The Hampden Trust company was incorporated by a special act of the legislature, June 1, 1887, under the name of the Hampden Loan and Trust company, by Emerson Gaylord, Henry S. Hyde, Henry M. Phillips, Edward H. Lathrop, William W. Wright, Daniel J. Marsh and Charles A. Kibbe. The object of the company was to carry on a general banking, loan and trust business under the laws of this state, and the incorporation appears to have been suggested by Col. M. V. B. Edgerly, who aimed to conduct the business in connection with the Massachusetts Mutual Life as auxiliary to that corporation. However, under the charter nothing was accomplished for several years,

and the company in fact was not organized and ready for business until the spring of 1895.

The first officers were Col. Edgerly, president; Henry M. Phillips, vice-president; and William G. McIntyre, treasurer. Before the business was fairly started Col. Edgerly died and John A. Hall was thereupon elected his successor. He served one year and was succeeded by Gov. Haile, who died in February, 1901, and during whose term in the presidency the company became firmly established in banking circles in the city. On the death of Gov. Haile, William G. McIntyre, the former treasurer, was elected president of the company, and at the same time Sayward Galbraith, originally clerk and later assistant treasurer, succeeded to the vacancy created by the advancement of Mr. McIntyre.

Six years of business have demonstrated the usefulness and success of the Hampden Trust company (the name having been changed May 1, 1901) as one of the financial institutions of Springfield. The company does a general banking business, having a deposit account of nearly $1,500,000, and in addition thereto acts as trustee, executor or administrator of estates of deceased persons, and also as registrar for corporations. Indeed, under its charter and the laws of the state the company possesses all the advantages of national banks, except in the issue of currency, and in many respects has greater powers. The latest report of its condition shows a capital of $100,000, undivided profits amounting to $57,000, and trust accounts aggregating nearly $200,000.

The present officers of the company are William G. McIntyre, president; William F. Whiting and Henry C. Haile, vice-presidents; Sayward Galbraith, treasurer; Henry M. Phillips, William E. Wright, William B. Plunkett, Peter Murray, Henry C. Haile, William W. McClench, Edmund P. Kendrick, William F. Whiting and William G. McIntyre, directors.

The Springfield Institution for Savings, the oldest corporation of its kind in Hampden county and one of the oldest in Massachusetts, dates back in its history—an unbroken record of successful business operation—to the year 1827, when it was

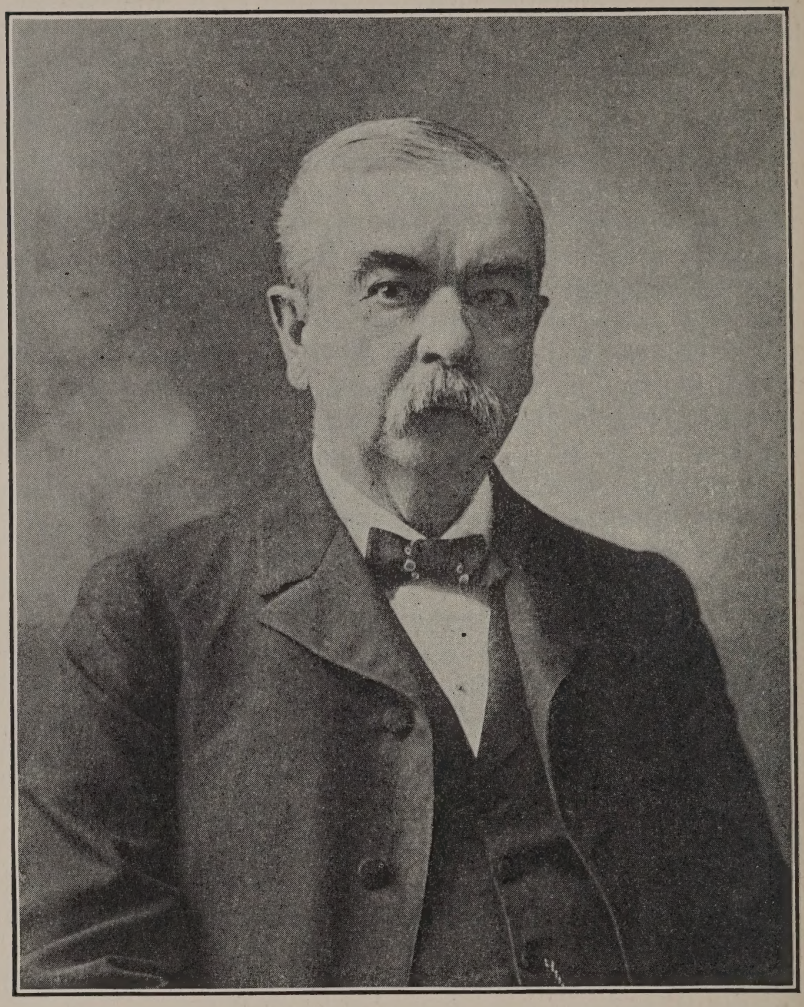
brought into existence by a special act of the legislature. When business was begun the institution was conducted as an auxiliary to the old Springfield bank, and occupied the same building until 1844. At first its business was quite limited, the deposits in the year mentioned amounting to less than $50,000. About that time the trustees were disposed to wind up its affairs, but finally appointed a committee (William Dwight, John Howard, Theodore Bliss, James Brewer and Samuel Reynolds) to consider the premises and suggest a plan of action for the future. The committee reported in favor of continuing the bank, and accordingly it was separated from the old patron institution and started out on an independent career.

Subsequent events proved the wisdom of this proceeding, and in the course of a few years the savings institution became established on a firm foundation; and it has since continued to grow in strength and public favor until it has come to be recognized as one of the most solid institutions for savings in all New England. In proof of this assertion we have only to refer to the present condition of its affairs. The depositors number over 40,000 persons, and the total deposits aggregate $16,614,075.50. Few similar institutions in the country can make a better showing.

The first officers were John Hooker, president; George Bliss, Jonathan Dwight, jr., David Ames, Roswell Lee, John Chaffee, Joshua Frost, Robert Emery and John Ingersoll, vice-presidents; Daniel Bontecou, John B. Kirkham, Diah Allen, Samuel Henshaw, William Child, Joseph Wetherhead, Benj. Day, W. F. Wolcott, George Colton, George Bliss, jr., Charles Stearns, Moses Bliss 2d, Oliver B. Morris, Justice Willard and Samuel Reynolds, trustees.

When the savings institution was separated from the Springfield bank in 1844, new quarters were found for the former in Foot's building, but in 1867 the trustees caused to be erected the substantial building at the corner of Main and State streets, the subsequent and present home of the corporation.

The succession of presidents is as follows: John Hooker, 1827-44; Theodore Bliss and William Dwight, each for brief



Henry S. Lee

terms from 1844 to 1847; Josiah Hooker, 1847-70; James M. Thompson, 1870-84; John B. Stebbins, 1884-99; Henry S. Lee, 1899—now in office. The treasurers have been John Howard, 1827-49; Henry Stearns, 1849-58; Henry S. Lee, 1858-99; Joseph C. Booth, 1899—now in office.

The present officers of the institution are as follows: Henry S. Lee, president[1]; Julius H. Appleton, vice-president; Joseph C. Booth, treasurer; W. N. Caldwell, clerk; Henry S. Lee, Julius H. Appleton, Marcus P. Knowlton, Edward P. Chapin, Arthur B. West, John A. Hall, Homer L. Bosworth, W. N. Caldwell and John McFethries, trustees; James D. Safford, W. C. Marsh and H. W. Haskins, auditors.

The Hampden Savings bank was incorporated and organized in 1852, and "was the creation of Chester W. Chapin, who had in view the establishment of a bank near the depot, to accommodate the employees of the Western railroad and others from out of town, who might desire to make deposits out of their monthly earnings." On the formal organization of the bank (May 21, 1852) Albert Morgan was elected president; James T. Ames, Chester W. Chapin, Franklin Morgan and Eliphalet Trask, vice-presidents; Frederick S. Bailey, treasurer; Samuel S. Day, William Melcher, Ezekiel Blake, Sylvanus Adams, Andrew Huntington, Stephen C. Bemis, Gilman Jaquith, Hiram Q. Sanderson, Henry Gray, Ephraim W. Bond, Thomas W. Wason and Edward Southworth, trustees.

Previous to 1873 the savings accounts were kept in the Agawam bank, to which in a measure the savings bank was auxiliary, but in that year the institutions were separated and in 1899 the savings bank was removed to its present quarters on the west side of Main street. From the time of its organization the affairs of the bank have been prudently and conservatively managed, and the hopes of the founder were realized in the opening of many accounts by railroad employees and others of the wage-earning element of the city's population.

Mr. Morgan continued in the presidency from 1852 to 1856, and then was succeeded by Stephen C. Bemis, who served until

[1]Mr. Lee died March 29, 1902, and Julius H. Appleton has been elected in his place.

1871. Eliphalet Trask was the next president, serving until his death in 1890. John Mulligan followed next, and was succeeded in February, 1899, by Charles L. Gardner, the present president. During the half century of its existence, the bank has had only two treasurers, Frederick S. Bailey, who was the active manager of its affairs from 1852 to 1870, and then was succeeded by Peter S. Bailey, who is still in office.

According to the most recent published statement of its condition, the Hampden Savings bank has a deposit fund of more than $3,300,000, and total assets of more than $3,529,000. The present officers are as follows: Charles L. Gardner, president; Henry S. Hyde and Lewis J. Powers, vice-presidents; Peter S. Bailey, clerk and treasurer; Louis C. Hyde, Elijah Belding, Frank E. Carpenter, W. Chaplin Bemis, E. Dudley Chapin, F. H. Stebbins, William F. Callender, J. F. Bidwell, W. E. Wright, Mase S. Southworth, Dwight O. Gilmore and George R. Esterbrook, trustees.

The Springfield Five Cents Savings bank was chartered and organized in 1854, and was the first institution of its kind in the city to specially invite small savings, its patrons being allowed to deposit sums as small in amount as five cents, and from that to $1,000. Dr. George W. Rice was the guiding spirit of the enterprise, and in his early efforts in behalf of the bank he was aided by Willis Phelps and Dr. Joseph C. Pynchon. On the organization of the officiary Mr. Phelps was chosen president, and Dr. Pynchon, treasurer. In 1858 Dr. Pynchon became president and Charles Marsh was made treasurer.

Dr. Pynchon was continued in the presidency until 1889, when he died, and was succeeded by Ephraim W. Bond. The latter died December 5, 1891, and was followed as president by Dr. William Rice, who served until his death, August 17, 1897, when Robert O. Morris was elected his successor. In 1859, Charles Marsh, treasurer, was made cashier of the Pynchon bank, upon which Daniel J. Marsh was elected to the vacant office in the savings bank. He still serves in that capacity and now ranks with the oldest bankers in the city; and it may truthfully be said that in a large degree the success of this institution has been due to his prudent management of its business affairs.

From the outset the business of the bank has been conducted with gratifying success. During the first year the deposits amounted to $99,406, and from that time they have increased until the aggregate account at present is more than $6,077,000.

The present officers of the bank are as follows: Robert O. Morris, president; Henry M. Phillips, Oliver Marsh, Charles A. Nichols, vice-presidents; Daniel J. Marsh, treasurer; Robert O. Morris, Henry M. Phillips, Charles A. Nichols, Alfred M. Copeland, Henry S. Dickinson, Richard W. Rice, Aaron Bagg, George Leonard, Daniel J. Marsh, Oliver Marsh, Ralph W. Ellis, James H. Pynchon, William H. Gray and Henry D. Marsh, trustees; Henry D. Marsh, clerk; Oliver Marsh, William H. Gray, finance committee; Alfred M. Copeland, George Leonard, Richard W. Rice, auditing committee.

INSURANCE COMPANIES

The history of insurance in Springfield dates from the early years of the last century. At one time the city gave promise of unusual prominence as the home of many companies, and for a time the leadership of Hartford in this respect was questioned. Still, of all the old insurance companies chartered, organized and for a time continued in this city, only three have survived the ravages of time and experience and are in successful operation to-day. Some of our older citizens will remember the old Massasoit and Hampden insurance companies, and the first Springfield Fire insurance company, all of which lived for a time and then passed naturally out of existence. At a later date there were organized in succession the Washington Mutual Life and the Citizens' insurance companies, which, like the majority of their predecessors, found actual experience at variance with theory, and as a result they, too, fell by the wayside. A like fate overtook nearly all the later assessment companies, each of which promised much and accomplished little for the good of mankind.

The Mutual Fire Assurance company of Springfield, the oldest institution of its kind in the city, and one of the oldest in the state, was chartered and organized in 1827, and was the result of an accident. On a Sunday morning early in that year, when the

meeting house bell was calling the inhabitants to worship, a fire broke out in the dwelling house of Zebina Stebbins, and in spite of the efforts of the villagers and the fire company the building was destroyed. It was a custom of the period, and one which had existed almost from the time the town was founded, in case of serious loss by fire by one of the townsmen his neighbors would generously join together and replace the building or contribute money for that purpose; and occasions are not wanting in which the town voted to make good the losses of sufferers by fire. This not only was a custom of the age, but also was purely mutual insurance without the formality of charter or organization.

Zebina Stebbins, the victim of the Sunday morning fire in Ferry lane, was a conspicuous figure in early Springfield history. He did not need contribution on the part of his neighbors, but the fire itself suggested to his mind the need of an insurance company in the town, and he set about the work to accomplish that end. As a result of his efforts the legislature, on February 23, 1827, granted a charter to the Mutual Fire Assurance company of Springfield, naming as incorporators Zebina Stebbins, Joseph Carew, David Ames, jr., Festus Stebbins, Walter Stebbins, John Newbury, Sable Rogers and Jacob Bliss. At a meeting of interested persons held at Russell's inn on February 14, an informal organization of the company was effected. William Bliss was chosen permanent secretary, but the election of other officers was deferred until the next day. On the 15th Zebina Stebbins was made president; William Bliss, treasurer; and Zebina Stebbins, Jacob Bliss, Joseph Carew, Sable Rogers, Theodore Bliss, David Ames, jr., and Francis M. Carew, directors.

From the beginning of its history to the present time the policy of the company has been very conservative, and not once has it departed from its old traditions. As a purely mutual corporation it could not well do otherwise and keep faith with the pledges and purposes of the organizers. There are no salaried officers, other than the secretary and treasurer, the directors receiving a nominal compensation for attending meetings; and there are no agents whose commissions make inroads on the revenues of the company, and every endeavor is made to keep

down the expense account for the benefit of policy holders. The company insures only dwelling house property, yet its fame and popularity is such that about 2,700 policies are constantly outstanding. Covering the entire period of the company's history, the directors have returned to policy holders an average dividend of 80 per cent., and for the last nine years have returned a dividend of 90 per cent. The actual cost to the assured on a policy is about $1.25 on each $1,000 for five years. The assets now aggregate $200,000. The company never has been embarassed by serious losses and its business department always has been in safe hands.

The presidents of the company have been as follows: Zebina Stebbins, May 15-July 25, 1827; Joseph Carew, July 25, 1827-Oct. 5, 1829; George Colton, Oct. 5, 1829-March 9, 1838; William Child, March 9, 1838-Oct. 4, 1841; Samuel Reynolds, Oct. 4, 1841, declined; Charles Howard, declined; Philo F. Wilcox, Oct. 4, 1841-Oct. 11, 1850; Elijah Blake, Oct. 11, 1850-Oct. 4, 1869; W. C. Sturtevant, Oct. 4, 1869-died Aug. 21, 1891; Alfred Rowe, Oct. 6, 1891-Oct. 7, 1895; George B. Holbrook, Oct. 12, 1895-now in office. The secretaries have been William Bliss, 1827-38; Justice Willard, 1838-49; Lewis Gorham, 1849-68; Lewis A. Tifft, 1868-74; Frank R. Young, Sept. 19, 1874-now in office. The treasurers have been William Bliss, 1827, declined; Sable Rogers, 1827-48. (On Oct. 2, 1848, this office was consolidated with that of secretary.)

The officers in 1901 are: George B. Holbrook, president; Frank R. Young, secretary and treasurer; John West, Edwin McElwain, James L. Johnson, H. Curtis Rowley, Henry A. King, Azel A. Packard, Julius H. Appleton, George B. Holbrook and Frank R. Young, directors.

The Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance company, one of the most successful corporations of its character ever chartered under the laws of Massachusetts, was incorporated by an act of the legislature, passed April 24, 1849, with an authorized capital of $150,000 "for the purpose of making insurance against losses by fire and against maritime losses." The act authorized the company to conduct its business twenty years

(later on the charter was made perpetual) and to hold real estate not exceeding $15,000 in value. The incorporators were Edmund Freeman, George Dwight, John L. King, and their associates and successors.

Previous to the formal act of incorporation the company in an embryo state began making history, through its founder, Marvin Chapin, a man of means and influence in Springfield. Loyal always to the town (the city then was not incorporated) and its institutions, he argued earnestly in favor of an insurance company at home, which property owners and insurers might patronize rather than contribute to the support of corporations having no local interests, but which annually took away large sums of money in premiums. At first his efforts met with little encouragement, but finally business men saw the logic of his argument and by their promise to take stock the enterprise was made a success.

After the charter was granted no further action was taken until April 9, 1851, when the persons interested held a meeting at the Massasoit house for the purpose of accepting the act and completing the organization. At a meeting held May 19, William Conner, jr., was elected secretary, and then it was reported that two rooms in the City hotel building had been hired for the business operations of the company. It was voted to call in $50,000 of the capital, and to begin business July 1 by the issue of policies, no single risk to be written for a larger sum than $5,000. Two years afterward an office was opened in New York city, and soon after the company branched out into other states; and now the Springfield F. & M. does business wherever American fire insurance companies issue policies. The losses for 1851 amounted to $356.25, and the total fire risks written during the year were $1,784,916, and marine risks, $8,280.

The first officers of the company were Edmund Freeman, president, and William Conner, jr., secretary and treasurer. The first board of directors comprised eleven prominent business and professional men, who were identified not only with the history of the company but also with the best interests of Springfield in general. All, except Mr. Walker, were elected to the director-

ate on April 9, 1851, and served for the period set opposite their respective names: Marvin Chapin, died June 27, 1899; Edmund Freeman, died Jan. 25, 1879; Daniel L. Harris, died July 11, 1879; Chester W. Chapin, died June 10, 1883; Andrew Huntington, died August 18, 1858; Edward Southworth, died Dec. 11, 1869; John L. King, resigned 1852 and died September 5, 1872; Jacob B. Merrick, died June 9, 1863; Albert Morgan, died Sept. 24, 1860; Waitstill Hastings, died May 24, 1888; George Walker, resigned 1876 and died Jan. 15, 1888.

After six years of successful operation it was determined to secure more commodious quarters for the company, and accordingly a committee was appointed to select a suitable site for a building. In 1857 land was purchased at the corner of Main and Fort streets (where once stood the old Pynchon fort, or mansion) the consideration paid being the sum of $5,600. On this historic land the home office building of the company was erected, and was occupied in 1858.

The Springfield F. & M. has passed the fiftieth year of its history—a half century of remarkable success when we consider the many serious events which during that period have worked the downfall of hundreds of kindred enterprises. True it is that during this period our own home company has not escaped disaster, and while the losses in the Boston fire of 1872 (the most serious in the history of the company) swept away the accumulated surplus and impaired the capital to the extent of $150,000, the stockholders stood firmly together, paying all demands without complaint and showing no disposition to part with their certificates on account of the losses of that and the preceding year, or at any other time when disturbances in business circles necessitated heroic action to maintain the integrity of the company.

Several times during the period of its history the capital stock of the company has been increased to keep step with growing conditions. In 1859 it was doubled, and in 1866 it was increased from $300,000 to $500,000. In later years as business operations were extended and the company became recognized as one of the most reliable insurance concerns in the country, still further increases were made, the last of which, in July,

1901, raised the capital from $1,500,000 to $2,000,000. On January 1, 1901, the total assets were $5,159,623.47, while the total liabilities, including capital, amounted to $3,340,480.06. At that time the net surplus was $1,819,143.41, and the surplus as regards policy holders, $3,319,143.41. Since it began business the company has paid losses aggregating $27,459,196.69.

The succession of officers of the company is as follows:

Presidents—Edmund Freeman, April 9, 1851-resigned April 11, 1874; Dwight R. Smith April 20, 1874-died April 15, 1880; Jarvis N. Dunham, May 31, 1880-died Dec. 2, 1891; Andrew J. Wright, Dec. 7, 1891-died March 14, 1895; A. Willard Damon, April 8, 1895-now in office.

Vice-presidents—Dwight R. Smith, April 14, 1868-April 20, 1874; Andrew J. Wright, Dec. 8, 1890-Dec. 7, 1891; Charles E. Galacar, Sept. 25, 1896-now in office.

Secretary and Treasurers—William Conner, jr., May 26, 1851-resigned Feb. 5, 1866; Jarvis N. Dunham, March 5, 1866-resigned June 6, 1868; Sanford J. Hall, July 6, 1868-resigned April 1, 1872.

Secretaries—Sanford J. Hall, July 6, 1868-died Dec. 28, 1900; William J. Mackay, Jan. 1, 1900-now in office.

Treasurers—Andrew J. Wright, April 9, 1872-Dec. 7, 1891; Henry M. Gates, Dec. 7, 1891-died April 30, 1899; Francis H. Williams, May 8, 1899-now in office.

Assistant secretaries—Sanford J. Hall, Nov. 12, 1866-July 6, 1868; Charles A. Birnie, April 17, 1884-Feb. 10, 1890; A Willard Damon, Dec. 8, 1890-April 8, 1895; William J. Mackay, April 15, 1895-Jan. 1, 1901.

Directors, 1901—Frederick H. Harris, Marshall Field, James L. Pease, Mase S. Southworth, Henry S. Lee, Warren D. Kinsman, Homer L. Bosworth, William A. Harris, A. Willard Damon, Charles E. Galacar.

The Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance company, the survivor of all the numerous life insurance companies which during the last thirty years have striven to gain a permanent foothold in this city, was incorporated by an act of the legislature, approved May 15, 1851, and from that time has been numbered

among the most successful institutions of its kind in the state. A mutual organization from the outset, its founders aimed to establish a firm financial basis by providing a guarantee capital of $100,000, but in 1867 this feature was abolished and the company became in fact, as well as in name, a purely mutual corporation.

The real founders of the company were George W. Rice and Dr. Alfred Lambert, the former at one time having been the representative of a foreign life company, while the latter was its medical examiner in the town. They conceived the idea of establishing a life insurance company in Springfield, and set about the missionary work necessary to educate the pubic to that end. The ultimate result of their labors was an informal organization, pledges to the guarantee capital, and a lively interest in having a home life company established on an equitable basis of operation. Then followed the act of incorporation, the principal persons mentioned in which were Alexander H. Avery, James M. Thompson and William Rice, and their associates and successors.

On May 27 the stockholders held a meeting, perfected a temporary organization and elected the following board of directors: James M. Thompson, Alexander H. Avery, Harvey Danks, Chester W. Chapin, William B. Calhoun, Samuel S. Day, George Bliss, George Ashmun, Henry Gray, Edmund Freeman, William Rice, Rufus Chandler, George Dwight, E. F. Moseley, Caleb Rice, Henry Fuller, jr., Erasmus D. Beach, John Hamilton, Alfred Lambert and W. W. Boyington On June 20 the board voted to employ a secretary—F. E. Bacon—who also was to act as managing officer of the company's business. In August the first policy was written, the assured being director Harvey Danks. From that time forward the work was vigorously pushed and offices were established in various places in this and other states.

The early years of the company's history were accompanied with many vicissitudes, and on at least one occasion the permanence of the institution was threatened; but in the course of a few more years the former experiences served as object lessons for the future and success was assured. Now, having passed a half century of active business life, and having in that time

grown from a small organization struggling for existence to one of the strongest and safest insurance corporations in all New England, the fondest hopes of the founders have been realized to their fullest extent, though none of the original factors in its creation have lived to witness its best achievements in the closing years of the nineteenth, or its splendid condition at the beginning of the twentieth century.

During the last decade of the century just closed the assets of the company increased more than 133 per cent., and the surplus more than 167 per cent. On December 31, 1900, the assets aggregated $26,245,622.04, while the liabilities amounted to $23,920,986.53; surplus, $2,324,635.51. From 1851 to the close of the year 1900 the company paid death claims amounting to the gross sum $20,163,430.97; endowments matured, $3,370,018.00; and dividends, $9,559,142.03.

This gratifying sucecss has been due largely to the confidence of the public in the stability of the company, and this stability, in turn, has been the result of efficient management and the high character of those who have composed the officiary of the company.

The presidents of the company have been Caleb Rice, 1851-73; Ephraim W. Bond, 1873-86; M. V. B. Edgerly, 1886-95; John A. Hall, 1895-now in office. The vice-presidents have been Erasmus D. Beach, 1851-67; Ephraim W. Bond, 1867-73; C. McLean Knox, 1873-74; Henry Fuller, jr., 1874-85; M. V. B. Edgerly, 1885-86; Henry S. Lee, 1886-now in office. The secretaries have been F. E. Bacon, 1851-70; C. McLean Knox, 1870-73; Avery J. Smith, 1873-81; John A. Hall, 1881-95; Henry M. Phillips, 1895-now in office. The actuaries have been James W. Mason, 1860-73; Oscar B. Ireland, 1873-now in office.

The present officers and directors are as follows: John A. Hall, president; Henry S. Lee, vice-president; Henry M. Phillips, secretary; Oscar B. Ireland, actuary; Julius H. Appleton, Henry S. Hyde, Marcus P. Knowlton, N. C. Newell, Lewis J. Powers, John A. Hall, Henry S. Lee, Henry M. Phillips, Charles S. Warburton, William W. McClench, John S. Tilney, John F. Anderson, jr., Edward A. Groesbeck, John R. Redfield, George B.

Chandler, Edwin D. Metcalf, John K. Marshall, Albert E. F. White and Charles S. Mellen, directors.

THE STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM

During the early years of the war of 1861-65, at a time when nearly all of the progressive cities of New England were agitating the subject of street railroads, a movement was set on foot looking to the establishment in Springfield of such a carrier system. On March 30, 1863, the legislature passed an act to incorporate the "Springfield horse railroad company," with a capital of $100,000, and authority to construct and operate a horse railroad with single or double tracks from such points on Main street as the city council might determine, reserving to the city the privilege to purchase the road after the expiration of ten years.

The incorporators named in the act were Chester W. Chapin, George Bliss and Henry Alexander, jr., all of whom were conspicuous figures in early city history. But however praiseworthy may have been the purpose of these citizens, their scheme never was developed into life, and beyond securing the charter and a general discussion of the matter nothing was accomplished, probably owing to the uncertainties of the war then in progress in the South.

In 1868 the subject was revived, and on March 16 of that year the legislature passed an act incorporating the Springfield street railway company, naming as incorporators George M. Atwater, Chauncey L. Covell and Ethan S. Chapin, and granting the company authority to construct and operate a line of street railway through Main street, and also to the neighboring towns of Chicopee and Longmeadow. Under this act nothing was accomplished, hence the charter virtually was forfeited; but in 1869, by an act passed March 26, the charter was revived and authority was then given to build and operate a road through Main and State streets.

This was the company which in fact built and put in operation the first street railway in the city. The authorized capital was $100,000, but business was begun with half that sum. On the organization the first board of directors comprised George M. At-

A relic of early "Rapid Transit" on Main Street, Springfield

water, Homer Foot, Chauncey Covell, Caleb Alden and Gurdon Bill. The officers were George M. Atwater, president; J. C. McIntosh, treasurer, and Gideon Wells, clerk.

The principal point of operations was at the company's stables at the corner of Main and Hooker streets, from which in 1870 a line of track was laid through Main and State streets to Oak street. The first car was run on March 10 of that year. This was known as the Main and State street line when the company had become possessed of sufficient franchises to warrant distinguishing names. In 1873 the board of aldermen gave permission to locate a road from State street through Main and Locust streets to Mill river. In 1874 a location was granted for a line to extend north from Hooker street to Brightwood. In 1879 an extension was granted from State street through Maple and Central streets to the Watershops. In 1884 the location for the St. James avenue line was granted In 1886 the Walnut and King street location was granted, and the road was opened the same year. In 1887 the Lyman, Chestnut and Carew street line was located, and in the same year the Worthington street line was opened as far as Kibbe avenue. In 1887, also, the location for the Chicopee line was granted, and the road was opened on North Main street in 1888. In 1889 the Mill river line was authorized to be extended through Ft. Pleasant and Summer avenues to Forest park. This extension was opened for traffic in 1890, and settled beyond all question the permanency of the park. Previously a few thousand visitors had patronized that resort each season, but after the road was opened the number of visitors multiplied several fold.

The year 1890 was eventful both in the history of the company and the system it operated. The Forest park line was equipped with electric motor cars, and so gratifying was the success of this first effort that on the older lines the use of horse power was discontinued as rapidly as possible and the more rapid "trolley" system replaced the old, slow and uncertain method of transportation. In later years all new lines and the extension of older ones were equipped with electric power for propelling cars. In the adoption of electric motors, however, the Spring-

field street railway company was not a pioneer, the management awaiting the results of the experiment in other cities, and adopting the same after its value had been fully demonstrated.

When the company was granted permission to operate its lines with electric power the Maple street and Mitteneague branches were excepted from the operation of the grant; the former on account of an objection on the part of residents in that street, and the latter because the authorities were doubtful of the expediency of permitting electric cars to cross the old structure at the foot of Bridge street. The Maple street people for some time fought the company persistently, basing their objections on the ground that the street was too narrow for the convenient operation of cars and the superior rights of the public, and further, on the ground that the people of the street did not want a railroad line through a principal residence thoroughfare of the city. But, at length, when it was proposed to equip the Maple street line with electricity, which measure also was opposed, the board of aldermen voted to submit the question to the people at the next general election, upon which the spirit of opposition gradually subsided, and the change was made.

The location for the original West Springfield line across the old toll bridge and thence through Bridge, Main, Park, Elm and Westfield streets to Mitteneague, was granted in 1888. In 1892 the line was changed to cross the North End bridge. In 1892 also the Glenwood line to Chicopee was located; the Worthington street line was extended from Kibbe avenue to St. James avenue; the Indian Orchard line was located, and the Liberty street line was opened. The latter soon afterward was extended through Liberty street and Broadway in Chicopee to Chicopee Falls. The Catherine street line was located and opened for traffic in 1893; the Longmeadow line in 1896; the Plainfield street line in 1897; the Hancock, Walnut, Mill, Allen and White streets line in 1897; the Holyoke extension in 1895; the Westfield extension to Tatham and the Agawam line in 1900. The Belmont avenue location was granted in 1894. The cars on the line formerly run by way of the park and the "X" at the south line of Euclid

avenue, but afterward a road was built to connect the Euclid avenue terminus with the line at the foot of Ft. Pleasant avenue.

In 1870 the Springfield street railway company operated a line of horse cars over 13,039 feet of track, using four cars and twenty-five horses and furnishing employment for eleven men. From July 1 to September 30, 1870, the company carried 67,705 passengers, at an average rate of speed of three and three-fifths miles per hour. The operating expenses for the time mentioned were $4,455, while the total earnings were $4,525. The cost of the road then in operation was $45,330.87, from which it may correctly be inferred that at that time the street railway investment was not regarded as really profitable.

Mr. Atwater was president of the company from its organization until January, 1876, and the success of the company during the period of his management was due in a great measure to his personal efforts. He was president during the creative period of the company's history, a period in which in nearly all large undertakings profits and dividends are not expected. However, in 1876 John Olmsted was elected president of the company. At that time he was not a practical railroad man, but he was a practical, thorough and successful business man in various mercantile and manufacturing enterprises. When the change was made the directors were George M. Atwater, John Olmsted, Homer Foot, Chauncey L. Covell and Henry W. Phelps.

Mr. Olmsted was made a director of the company in 1871, and when he became president in fact he assumed absolute control of its business and management; and whether under his guiding hand the company has been successful, and the people have been satisfied with the service rendered, the general public must determine. Whatever was necessary to be done Mr. Olmsted did, and the directors never once questioned his policy. If questions arose that required the action of the board, that body assembled and heard the statement of the president and then requested him to proceed according to his own judgment; and subsequent events have shown that this confidence in the managing officer was not misplaced.

The result of the management of the Springfield street railway company has been entirely gratifying to every person con-

nected with the enterprise, and also to the general public; and to-day the railway system of the city stands unsurpassed by any of its kind in the country. It operates nearly 68 miles of main road, owns more than 225 cars, employs 440 men, and for the year ending September 30, 1900, carried almost fourteen millions of passengers. The present capital, which frequently has been increased with the constant growth of the company's interests, is nearly $1,500,000, yet the general assets of the corporation are worth about $4,000,000.

In the year mentioned the company paid its employees about $232,000, and the operating expenses were nearly $500,000; the gross expenditures were more than $672,000, and the gross earnings amounted to more than $686,000. In the same year the company paid dividends of more than $116,000, about an eight per cent. dividend, which has been paid regularly for several years.

However, in speaking of the splendid results accomplished by the management of the company much credit must be given to Mr. Olmsted's faithful assistants. During the old "horse car" days F. E. King acted as superintendent, and on his death he was succeeded by Austin E. Smith. The latter, perhaps more than any other one person, was a valuable aid to Mr. Olmsted in working the system up to its standard of excellence. He was chosen treasurer of the company in 1881, and became a director in 1888. Subsequently (July 29, 1890) he was made manager and held that responsible position at the time of his death in 1899. He was followed in office by George W. Cook, the present managing director.

In all the multitude of elements which have combined to place Springfield among the progressive cities of the country, the street railway company has been a leading and prominent factor. During the busy hours of day nearly a hundred cars are in constant motion, with their loads of traders, shoppers and pleasure seekers. The operation of the extended suburban lines has brought to the city the best trade of Holyoke and Westfield, while Chicopee people thereby are enabled to buy most of their goods in Springfield. The same also is true of Chicopee Falls,

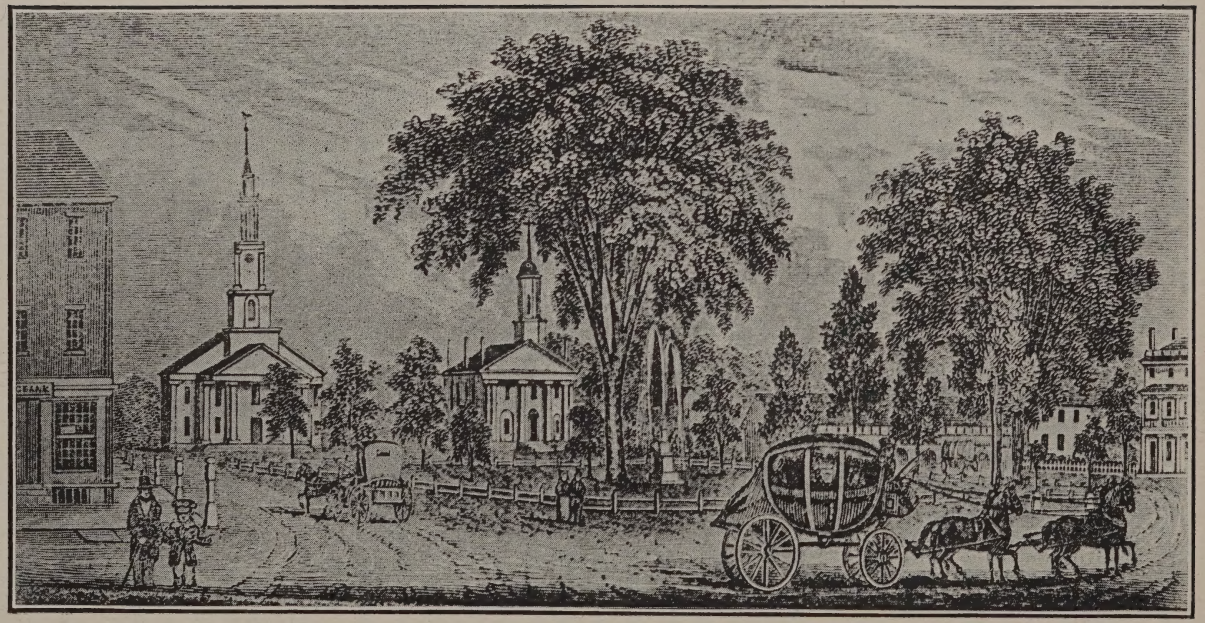
Ludlow, Indian Orchard, Longmeadow, West Springfield and Agawam, and every day buyers from the border towns of Connecticut find their way over the "trolley" lines to Springfield's large mercantile establishments. Taken altogether it is doubtful if any of the enterprises for which this city is noted has been productive of more substantial and general good to all interests than the street railway company.

The present officers of the corporation are John Olmsted, president; Frederick Harris, treasurer; Jonathan Barnes, clerk; Lucius E. Ladd, auditor; George W. Cook, superintendent; George M. Atwater, John Olmsted, Frederick Harris, Alonzo W. Damon and George W. Cook, directors.

MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS

In an earlier part of the city chapter frequent reference is made to the old interests of Springfield, and some attempt has been made to recall the names of business men at various periods of the town's history. A century ago, Springfield with its 2,300 population laid claim to perhaps a dozen mercantile establishments, a few small shops and no industries of consequence except that carried on by the government in the manufacture of fire-arms. When Hampden county was created and Springfield was designated as its shire town all interests naturally were benefited, yet the greatest advantage to mercantile pursuits at that time came from the operation of the several stage lines through the town. This period continued from the early years of the century until about the time of the city charter—a period of something like fifty years, and one in which was laid the foundation of many substantial fortunes in the town. Indeed, the business men, most of them engaged in mercantile enterprises, advocated and procured the passage of the charter act of 1852, and thus gave Springfield a standing in commercial circles in the state.

However, it was during the half century of progress which followed the opening of the Western railroad that Springfield made the greatest strides in business advancement. Previous to that time the stores were chiefly centered about court square,



Court Square, Springfield, 1824

while State street and armory hill were struggling for existence as trade localities. The opening of the railroad had not the effect to destroy these interests, but rather to promote them in the greatly increased population of the next score of years. After the road was completed Main street became the recognized thoroughfare of traffic and trade, and the general growth in all directions naturally strengthened all interests in other localities. The period of steam railroad building in Springfield continued from about 1840 to 1870, and in that time both the population and mercantile houses were more than doubled. Not only Main and State streets became established trading avenues during the period, but Dwight, Lyman, Worthington, Taylor, Bridge, Hillman and Sandford streets and Harrison avenue were transformed from residence localities into mercantile and business districts, while north of the tracks the street was rapidly taking the form and semblance of a trading center. The early establishment of Cooley's hotel in that vicinity had much to do with attracting trade in that direction, but the general desirability of the region was a considerable factor in accomplishing that end.

If the reader peruses the early portions of the city chapter it will be found that the most extensive merchants of the town kept on hand large quantities of wares of various kinds, and under the head of "general stores" liquors frequently were kept on sale as part of the usual stock in trade. The Dwights were among the largest traders of early days, and while their stock is not said to have included the commodity just mentioned, their general assortment of goods might be likened to a miniature of the present vast establishments of the city conducted by Smith & Murray, Forbes & Wallace, Meekins, Packard & Wheat, Dickieson & Co., Quigley's and others now in trade in the city.

The establishment of the modern department store is in a way a return to an old-time custom in merchandising, only on a far greater scale of operation. If local tradition be true, the Dwight store in the best days employed from six to eight salesmen, all of whom were males; the present modern stores of the city give employment to from 250 to 400 clerks, both men and women, the latter perhaps prevailing in point of numbers. In

stablishing stores of this class Springfield was not a pioneer city, but adopted the custom of the larger metropolitan cities after the departure had proved a success. The Forbes & Wallace store dates back in its history to the year 1866, when Alexander Forbes and J. M. Smith began business at the corner of Main and Vernon streets. Mr. Wallace replaced Mr. Smith in the concern in 1874, since which time the firm name has been well known in business circles, although the personnel of the proprietary has changed in later years. The Smith & Murray establishment was founded in 1879, occupying a substantial building at the corner of Court Square, where formerly stood the famous Hampden coffee house. Meekins, Packard & Wheat are a more recent yet equally strong house, and with such concerns as Dickiesons, D. H. Brigham Co., Carter & Cooley, H. S. Christopher, W. D. Kinsman, the George F. Quigley Co., and probably twenty others in the same lines of trade, have combined to give Springfield an especial prominence in business circles in the central and western portions of the state.

A mention of these interests naturally suggests others in various branches of trade, but it is not possible or within the province of our work to mention the names of all merchants, either past or present, who have contributed to the business history of the city. Still, in speaking of stores of remarkable size and strength some notice must be given to such houses as Haynes & Co. (one of the strongest and best in Western Massachusetts), Besse, Carpenter & Co., Meigs & Co., Charles E. Lynch, all of whom have contributed in a large degree to the prosperity of the city. Our observations in this direction might be continued almost indefinitely, until every branch of business is mentioned, but scope and policy forbid. Each, however, is worthy of notice and each is a factor for good in the history of the city, but it is not the purpose of this work to advertise the business men of Springfield.

Springfield has a population of more than 63,000 inhabitants, and business houses sufficient in number, size and variety to supply the demands of 100,000 people; and this demand they do supply, for the city draws trade from all points within a

radius of twenty miles, and is known as the best business center in the state outside of the city of Boston. The volume of business at the post-office is surprising, and may be taken as an index of the magnitude of the mercantile and manufacturing trade of the city. In this respect Springfield enjoys an unusual distinction, as may be seen by reference to the statistical tables of the cities of New England. Yet comparative statistics tending to show to the disadvantage of cities larger than our own are not desirable.

For much of its progress during the last half century the city is indebted to the numerous lines of steam and electric railway, the latter having been the particular factor in accomplishing good results. Strangers visiting Springfield and observing the number and apparent thrift of its business interests, frequently are impelled to ask whence comes the trade to maintain them; but the answer is plain, and one need only point to the "trolley" lines leading to suburban localities to show that all the surrounding country is in truth tributary to the city and the bulk of the trade of more than 50,000 people from beyond its own corporate limits is attracted here.

MANUFACTURING

As an industrial city Springfield has long held an enviable prominence in New England, but there are few manufacturing centers in the whole region which are less favored with natural facilities for this pursuit. The waters of the Connecticut have not and cannot be readily diverted for manufacturing purposes within the city limits, and the only other stream of sufficient size to afford water power is Mill river. This is narrow and of limited capacity, yet from "time out of mind" its waters have been utilized for power purposes. The pioneers had recourse to this stream in the construction of the primitive mills of their period, hence the name—Mill river—by which it has ever since been known. After the construction of the saw and grist mills there was built on its banks a fulling and cloth mill, then a small tannery and bleachery, and later, among the old industries of the locality, the watershops plant, a government enterprise for the

manufacture of firearms, which has continued to the present day, and one which, with the main construction works on State street, constitutes the greatest labor employing concern in the city.

The next considerable industry on the river was the Ames paper mill, a small affair when first started, but the humble beginning of the greatest industry in the Connecticut valley, and one which has given Holyoke a world-wide prominence. For the last three-quarters of a century the Mill river locality has been an important manufacturing district, yet in a great measure water power has been replaced with steam power, hence proprietors have established their works in the vicinity of the railroads.

Previous to 1848 one of the most available manufacturing localities of Springfield was along the banks of Chicopee river, where a few small factories were started about one hundred years ago. About 1825 or '30 the waters of the river were diverted for manufacturing purposes and at least two heavily capitalized companies were formed for the purpose of constructing dams, canals and mills, and for the operation of the latter. In the year mentioned (1848) the public welfare demanded a division of Springfield and the creation of the new town of Chicopee, which, when done, took from the mother town several of its largest manufacturing enterprises. At the time and for many years afterward, these plants were owned by Springfield capital, and to-day business men of this city are largely interested in Chicopee and Chicopee Falls industries.

Between 1840 and 1850 steam power as a means of operating machinery came into use, and soon afterward Springfield again became recognized as a manufacturing center. The construction of the several lines of railroad impelled still greater efforts in this direction, and along about 1860 the city took rank with the most progressive factory cities of New England. None of this prestige has been lost in later years and there are few cities of the same population that can boast of a greater number or variety of manufacturing industries than Springfield at the beginning of the twentieth century. Three principal lines of railroad carry the product of its factories to all the great markets, while the lesser branches furnish ready access to interior regions

and add materially to the industrial and commercial wealth of the city.

A careful observer of Springfield's manufacturing enterprises has placed their number at more than two hundred, great and small, varying in employing capacity from 25 to 300 men. The reader will see how impossible it will be to record the history of each plant in this chapter without the writer involving himself in a maze of statistics and needless detail; and more, the proprietors themselves have expressed a desire not to be "written up" exhaustively as a part of the city's history. However, it is proper to mention these establishments separately, especially those of importance, as many of them have been conspicuous factors in Springfield's industrial growth.

The little primitive paper mill started by David Ames about 1800 evidently made good progress during the first twenty-five years of its operation, for in 1827 the Ames paper company was incorporated by Mr. Ames and his sons David, jr., and John Ames. The latter then were young men, the elder being a man of thorough business qualifications and a practical paper maker, while the younger, in addition to his knowledge of the business, developed an inventive genius and perfected several machines and processes for use in paper making. As the concern prospered others became interested in the business in other localities and soon Hampden county gained an enviable notoriety from its paper products. The Ames works was the real beginning, however, of this now vast industry, and was located on Mill river.

In 1823 a number of Springfield capitalists and business men conceived the idea of starting an extensive cotton goods and iron mill in the town, and to that end secured an act of incorporation for the Boston & Springfield manufacturing company. The prime movers of the enterprise were Israel E. Trask, Jonathan Dwight, jr., Edmund Dwight, Joseph Hall, jr., Benjamin Day, James Brewer, Joseph Brown, John W. Dwight, 3d, James S. Dwight and Samuel Henshaw. The works were put in operation on Chicopee river about 1824, the company employing a capital of $500,000. In 1827 the name was changed to Chicopee manufacturing company, and woolen goods and machinery were added to the list of products.

Another old industry was that known as the "Proprietors of the Hampden brewery," incorporated in 1826 for the purpose of manufacturing and selling ales, beer and porter. This is believed to have been the first concern for the production of malt liquors in the town, and while perhaps the later interests of the same class (and the city never has been without them) are in no sense the outgrowth of the old company, the principles employed in the manufacture are not greatly changed. At the present time the city is well supplied with breweries, and each has an excellent standing in commercial circles. In this line we may refer to the Springfield Breweries company, H. Porter & Co., and to the Highland concern, whose reputation as producers is known throughout Western Massachusetts. The proprietors of the old concern known as the Springfield brewery, to which reference has been made, were William F. Wolcott, Elisha Curtis, John B. Kirkham, Stephen Warren, jr., Edmund Allen, jr., Ithamar Goodman and Samuel H. Stebbins.

The Springfield card manufacturing company was incorporated in 1826, by Joseph Carew, Walter H. Bowdoin, Israel Phillips, jr., and William Bowdoin, jr., for the purpose of making and vending machines and cards. The works of this company were commonly known as the "old card factory," a once famous industry in early Springfield history; but now the plant is gone and its site is being rapidly filled to grade level with the surrounding property.

Another notable old industry was the Ames Manufacturing company, which was incorporated in 1834 by Nathan P. and James T. Ames, Edmund Dwight, and James K. Mills, for the manufacture of hardware, cutlery and other articles in that line. The company built works on Chicopee river and developed a valuable industry, but when Springfield was divided it became an interest of the new town of Chicopee, although started and owned largely by Springfield capital.

The Springfield Manufacturing company also is to be mentioned in the same connection. The company was incorporated in 1832, with an authorized capital of one million dollars, by Jonathan Dwight, Harrison Gray Otis, Israel Thorndike, Ed-

mund Dwight, James K. Mills, Thomas H. Perkins, Samuel A. Eliot, Benjamin Day, Samuel Cabot, Francis Stanton, George W. Lyman and George Bliss. The establishment of this company was well known in its day, and was a cotton and woolen factory of much importance half a century ago. Although an industry of that part of the town set off to Chicopee, much Springfield capital was employed, and great good came to the town through its operation. With the others before mentioned, this plant went to Chicopee in 1848.

The Dwight company, the first corporation so called, was incorporated in 1836, by Charles Stearns, George Bliss and William Dwight, all of whom, it is remembered, were interested in securing the early completion of the railroad from Worcester to Springfield and thence to the Hudson river. In their endeavors to promote this enterprise these men secured a charter for the company and proposed to establish in Springfield a factory for the construction of locomotives and other steam engines. The plant, however, was not built, and nothing more than organization of the company was effected under the charter.

The Dwight Manufacturing company was incorporated in 1841 by Thomas. H. Perkins, William Sturges and Edmund Dwight, with $500,000 capital, for the erection and the equipment of a factory building and the manufacture of cotton goods, the Chicopee river being selected as the site of operations. The Chicopee falls company, incorporated in 1836 by David M. Bryant, David Bemis and George W. Buckland, was another old Springfield enterprise which became lost to the town as a result of the division of the territory.

In 1837 the Indian Orchard Canal company was incorporated for the purpose of constructing a canal and diverting the waters of Chicopee river for manufacturing purposes. The company also was authorized to engage in the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods. This was the actual beginning of the industrial history of the locality known as Indian Orchard, although steps toward that end were taken several years earlier. In 1821 the Springfield Manufacturing company was organized, Benjamin Jencks being the leading spirit of the enterprise. The first

mills in the locality were built on the Ludlow side of the river, while early all the employees were domiciled on the Springfield side. In 1825 Charles Stearns began purchasing lands in the vicinity, with the ultimate intention to found an industrial settlement in that part of the town. Soon afterward George Bliss, James Brewer and Willis Phelps became interested in the enterprise with Mr. Stearns, and through their united efforts most of the available mill sites and power privileges were brought under their control. Then followed the incorporation of the Indian Orchard Canal company and the real development of the industrial resources of the region. In 1845 the canal company succeeded to the rights and interests of the old Springfield Manufacturing company on the south side of the river, and in the same year the first massive stone dam was constructed across the stream.

The work of the canal company was performed slowly but surely, and it was not until about 1852 that the erection of the mill buildings was begun. In the meantime the canal for power purposes had been excavated, the company lands had been surveyed and laid out into lots, and a small village had been founded. In 1853 the Ward Manufacturing company succeeded to the rights and privileges of the canal company, and at that time the two principal factory buildings were partially completed. In 1857 the Ward company conveyed its property to William Dehon, Henry V. Ward and Samuel Frothingham, as trustees, and at the same time a mortgage was given to George Bliss, George Walker and Caleb Barstow, also as trustees. This lien afterward was released to the Indian Orchard Mills company, who became the next proprietors of the mills and land enterprise. At this time 1,800 spindles and 352 looms were in operation in the mills, and twenty-five houses had been built in the village.

A second mill was built in 1859, and operated 1,800 spindles and 385 looms. The general capacity was afterward increased until the mills run more than 50,000 spindles and nearly 1,200 looms. In 1859, also, the company established a library and reading room for the benefit of its employees. The result of the

work of these several companies was the establishment of a flourishing village, which ever has been known as Indian Orchard. The old industries lived out their time and then gave way to others of a different and more modern character, and not less important in the history of the city

One of the best of these successor industries is that known throughout the land as the Chapman Valve company, one of the largest, most solid and reliable labor-employing concerns in Western Massachusetts. Its product is distributed throughout the United States and in general business circles it has a very high standing. The company was incorporated July 20, 1874, with an original capital of $60,000, and began business January 25, 1875, occupying two of the buildings which had been erected by the Indian Orchard Mills company. Even at that time, with comparatively limited capital, the works operated were regarded as an important element of manufacturing life in the city, yet within a very short time it was found necessary to increase the capital stock and also to add to the capacity of the plant. The most extensive enlargements were made between 1880 and 1890, but since the business was first begun every year has witnessed the growth of the works to meet the demands of constantly increasing business. The capital has been enlarged at various times, and now is $600,000. James D. Safford is the president, and Henry R. Dalton, jr., treasurer, of the company.

The Springfield Satinet company was another of the old interests of the town, and for several years was operated in the card factory building in the "dingle," to which previous allusion has been made. The incorporators of the company were Elisha Curtis, Walter H. Bowdoin and William Child, each of whom was a conspicuous figure in early city history. The charter was granted in 1837 and for something like twenty years afterward the company was a factor in Springfield industrial circles.

The Springfield Car and Engine company was incorporated in 1848 by Osgood Bradley, Amasa Stone, jr., and Azariah Boody, with $250,000 capital, for the purpose of manufacturing cars, steam engines and other machinery incident to the equipment of steam railroads. Previous to the incorporation some of

the persons interested in the company had begun the manufacture of cars for the railroads, but the business was conducted in a small way and it was expected that the stock company would establish a plant of greater magnitude and employing capacity. This hope, however, was not realized and in a few months the concern lost its identity and the works passed into the hands of the proprietors of the firm which afterward was resolved into the Wason Manufacturing company, the latter destined to become one of the greatest industrial enterprises of the whole country.

The Wason Manufacturing company, which was incorporated under its present name April 17, 1862,with a capital at that time of $50,000, dates its history in Springfield to the year 1845, when Thomas W. and Charles Wason left the employ of one of the Cabotville cotton mill companies, came to Springfield and began making cars for the Connecticut River railroad company. The first car was built entirely by themselves, and almost wholly without machinery or mechanical appliances except skill and persevering energy. During the first year the brothers and their employees built eight box cars, and in 1846, as their business promised future success, they removed from their first location near the bridge across the Connecticut to a larger shop on Liberty street. Two years later they occupied the buildings previously used by the old car and engine company. Soon afterward Charles Wason retired from the firm, and Thomas W., after carrying on business alone for a year or two, took as partners L. O. Hanson, Josiah Bumstead and J. S. Mellen, Mr. Wason having a half and each of the others a sixth interest in the works. In 1854 George C. Fisk succeeded Mr. Mellen in the partnership, and the firm thus constituted carried on the works without material change until 1862, when the Wason Manufacturing company was incorporated. The later changes in the personnel of the company and its management are unnecessary in this place; a sufficient record of the wonderful success and growth of the industry would require a volume. In 1870 Mr. Wason, actual founder and at that time president of the company, died, but the vast business of the corporation was continued uninterruptedly until it became the principal industry of the city. Soon

after the death of Mr. Wason the company purchased a considerable tract of land at Brightwood, a northern suburb of the city, and in 1873 the works were removed to that point. The company has a present capital of $300,000 and furnishes constant employment to from 400 to 750 workmen in all departments. The product of the factories (the company operates several acres of buildings) of the Wason Manufacturing company may be seen in almost every city in the United states, and Americans traveling outside the jurisdiction of our government very frequently notice the best emblem of the company, "Wason Manufacturing Co., Springfield, Mass.," in gilt letters in cars where chance calls them. The principal officers of the company at the present time are George C. Fisk, president, and H. S. Hyde, treasurer.

The Springfield Gas Light company was incorporated February 10, 1847, by James D. Brewer, Albert Morgan and Henry Gray, for the purpose of manufacturing illuminating gas and supplying the same to consumers in the then principal village of the town. Although a small enterprise at the outset the company evidently filled a "long-felt want," and in 1848 entered into a contract with the selectmen to supply Main and State streets with 38 lamp-posts (to be paid for by the town) and to furnish lights each night in the month, "except when the moon is above the horizon." For more than half a century the gas company has been an important element in the industrial history of the city. Previous to 1900 it was principally a local concern, but in February of that year the stock was transferred to a syndicate of capitalists outside of the city. The company has about 90 miles of main pipes in use and about 8,600 consumers. The presidents in succession have been Solyman Merrick, James D. Brewer, Marvin Chapin, James M. Thompson, Marvin Chapin, William H. Haile, James A. Rumrill and Charles H. Tenney. The present officers are Charles H. Tenney, president; F. de V. Thompson, manager; I. B. Allen, treasurer.

The Springfield Water Power company was incorporated in 1846, with $300,000 capital, by Willis Phelps, James D. Brewer and Henry Sargeant, for the purpose of creating a water power and diverting the waters of Chicopee river for manufacturing

purposes in Springfield. This was another of the early enterprises planned for the general welfare of the town, but like many others of its time and kind it now has passed out of existence.

The Ludlow Manufacturing company, a Springfield enterprise, although the name indicates a location in another town, was incorporated in 1849 by James Stebbins, John B. M. Stebbins and Timothy W. Carter, who, with their associates and successors, proposed to create a water power and erect a series of factory buildings for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods, iron and other wares, succeeding in their operations to the well planned but less elaborate works started by Benjamin Jencks in the towns of Ludlow, Springfield and Wilbraham.

The Springfield Machine company was incorporated in 1850, with a capital of $150,000, by Amasa Stone, jr., Azariah Boody and Addison Ware, for the manufacture of various articles of wood and iron. The American Hardware company was incorporated in 1854, with $150,000 capital, by Homer Foot, and Philos B. Tyler and their associates, for the manufacture of furniture casters and other hardware. The Indian Mills company, to which reference is made in a preceding paragraph, was incorporated in 1859 by Jabez C. Howe, George O. Hovey and George S. Bullens. Its object was to construct and maintain dams across Chicopee river, and also to engage in the production of cotton goods in the towns of Chicopee and Ludlow, but in the course of its operations the concern found its way into the town of Springfield.

In treating of the old and well established industries of the city special mention must be made of the enterprise carried on for almost half a century under the firm style of Smith & Wesson, manufacturers of fine grade revolvers and other small arms. This universally known house was established in 1857 by Horace Smith and Daniel B. Wesson, both of whom are frequently mentioned in various portions of this chapter as factors in the civil and political as well as the industrial history of the city. The original firm continued in business until 1874, when the senior partner retired and Mr. Wesson then continued alone until 1882. In

this year Walter Wesson became partner with his father, and still later Joseph H. Wesson, also a son of the founder, became interested in the firm which throughout this long period has been under the old style of Smith & Wesson—a name known in business circles throughout the world.

The Hampden Watch company, an industry of the city for more than twenty years, was established in 1867, taking the place of the still older New York Watch company. At the outset the business was small, but the product of the works, while limited, found favor in the markets of the country. The company was originally incorporated in 1870 and was reorganized and reincorporated in 1877, at which time Homer Foot was the principal man of the concern. The works were maintained in the city until about 1889 and then were removed to Ohio.

The Waltham Watch company, a more enduring and successful enterprise than any of its predecessors in Springfield, was not the outgrowth of any previous establishment of the same class, yet it came to the city by removal from Waltham in 1890, in which year, also, the company was incorporated. It is in all respects a reliable concern and gives employment to many skilled workmen. The active officers of the company are C. E. Van Norman, president; William E. Wright, vice-president; John McFetheries, treasurer.

The Morgan Envelope company was originally incorporated in April, 1870, and was reincorporated in March, 1872, but the enterprise as an industry of the city dates back to 1864, when Elisha Morgan began the manufacture of envelopes in a small way in a building on Hillman street. At first an experimental investment in a comparatively new field of operation, the proprietor did a careful and conservative business, but at the end of a year or two the venture had proved a success. Then it became necessary to remove to larger quarters on Taylor street, where in the course of time the buildings occupied by the concern extended through to Worthington street. In 1883 the company removed into the most complete and thoroughly appointed factory buildings in the city. Here the company has found permanent lodgment, and here it has developed one of the best

industries in the region. The first president of the company was Emerson Wight, while Mr. Morgan was the treasurer and manager. The latter became president in 1884, and still stands at the head of the company. Robert Day is the present treasurer.

The American Papeterie company, which was organized in 1878, was the result of a consolidation of interests in the papeterie departments of the Morgan Envelope company, the Powers Paper company and the Plympton Manufacturing company, the latter a Hartford concern. The American Writing Paper company, incorporated in July, 1899, is the outcome of a consolidation of individual paper companies of various cities. Elisha Morgan is president of the latter company.

The National Needle company, an important factor among the industries of the city, was organized in September, 1873, and was incorporated in the next month. When the business was begun six workmen were employed, but when the resources of the company were fully developed the number of employees was increased to more than 150 in all departments. The present officers are James D. Safford, president, and Selden B. Hickox, treasurer. The works are located on Boylston, Emery and Fulton streets.

The Barney & Berry Skate works, one of the old manufacturing concerns of the city, and one which has been continued more than thirty-five years with unvarying success, was established in 1864 by Everett H. Barney and John Berry, and began operations in what was then known as the Warner pistol factory building at Pecowsic. During the first year only 500 pairs of skates were made and six or eight men were employed. In more recent years an annual product of from 75,000 to 100,000 pairs of skates has not been regarded as an unusual event. Mr. Berry retired from the firm in 1869, Mr. Barney then becoming sole proprietor, but the old firm style always has been retained. The large factory building at Broad and Hanover streets was erected in 1882.

The R. F. Hawkins Iron works, which is recognized as one of the best industries of its class in this part of the state, was established under its present name in 1868, although the business

dates its history from 1846, when the firm of Stone & Harris began the manufacture of the Howe truss bridge and in connection therewith did general machine work. Mr. Hawkins at first was an office employee of the old firm and became partner with Mr. Harris in 1863. Five years later he became sole proprietor and during the more than thirty years of his active business life in the city he has shipped the product of his works to nearly all parts of the country. As is well known this plant manufactures bridges, steam boilers and builders' and contractors' iron work. The present proprietors are R. F. and Paul R. Hawkins.

The Hampden Paint and Chemical company as an industry of this county dates its history from 1852, when a charter was granted to the Serpentine Paint and Fire Brick company, the corporators being Reuben A. Chapman, C. C. Chaffee, Herman S. Lucas and Charles Phelps. On a reorganization of the concern the name was changed to Hampden Paint and Chemical company, as now known in manufacturing and trade circles. The company is an important factor in the industrial history of the city. The present officers are Edward P. Chapin, president, and Edward K. Baker, treasurer.

The Newell Brothers Manufacturing company, whose works at the foot of Howard street produce an extensive variety of covered, ivory and pearl buttons and give constant employment to a large number of wage earners, was established originally in Longmeadow, and thence removed to Springfield in 1864. The founders of the enterprise were Nelson C. and Samuel R. Newell, who made their beginning in 1848. The company was incorporated in 1870, and upon the death of Samuel R. Newell, in 1879, a reincorporation was effected. From the outset this business has been successful and the company has established an excellent reputation in trade circles as well as in this city. During the period of its operation the works have been enlarged frequently and the working force as often increased. The personnel of the management also has occasionally changed, as is customary with establishments of long standing in any community. The present officers are Nelson C. Newell, president and treasurer; A. W. Newell, vice-president, and William C. Newell, superintendent.

The Phillips Manufacturing company, producers of steam heating apparatus for public and private buildings, was incorporated in March, 1876, and for many years thereafter was an important industry in the city. It was named in allusion to Col. Henry M. Phillips, its president, who also for years has been a factor in Springfield civil and political history.

The Medlicott-Morgan company, successor to the W. G. Medlicott company, was incorporated in 1887, although the predecessor concern dated from 1881. The company for several years was the only manufacturer of textile fabrics in the city, and all through the period of its history has held a good standing in industrial circles. The present company in its works on Worthington street produces a general line of men's fine fancy cotton underwear. The officers are James C. Cooley, president; H. J. Straukamp, secretary, and H. M. Morgan, treasurer.

The Taylor & Tapley Manufacturing company was incorporated January 1, 1884, although its business was begun in 1882 as an individual concern succeeding the still earlier interests carried on by Bingham & Co. est., 1863; Ray & Taylor, 1865; George Tapley, 1866, and the Ray & Taylor company, organized in 1874.

The Milton Bradley company, so long known in litographic and publishing circles in Springfield, has been for many years an important concern in the city. It was started in 1860 by Milton Bradley, who soon afterward was joined by Clark W. Bryan and J. F. Tapley, and later by Lewis Bradley, then establishing the firm of Milton Bradley & Co. The company was incorporated in 1884, with George W. Tapley as president, and Milton Bradley as treasurer and manager.

The Cheney Bigelow Wire works was incorporated in 1887, with $90,000 capital, yet the company traces its history to a time previous to the city charter, when Cheney Bigelow with a single assistant opened a small shop in the principal village of the town and began the manufacture of various articles from wire. This was in 1842. Mr. Bigelow continued the business with fair success until the time of his death, in 1873, when W. D. Stevens, a former mechanical draughtsman and office employee in the shop, undertook the management. His efforts also were rewarded with

success, and in 1889 the former individual company was resolved into an incorporated stock company, the first officers being J. H. Bigelow, president, and W. D. Stevens, treasurer and manager. The works now occupied by the company are located at the foot of Heywood avenue, and the product includes a large variety of wire goods. The present officers are Daniel B. Wesson, president, and Edwin C. Spear, treasurer and manager.

The Bay State Corset company was incorporated July 19, 1890, and was the outgrowth of an individual enterprise previously conducted in West Brookfield, having removed thence to Springfield in 1886. The proprietors at that time were C. L. Olmstead and A. D. Nason, and on the organization under the incorporation Mr. Olmstead became president and Mr. Nason treasurer of the company. The other persons interested in the enterprise were Myron W. Sherman, Charles E. Whitney and William M. Titus. From the humble beginning indicated above the company has become one of the best employers of labor in Springfield, furnishing work to from 400 to 500 wage earners, and carrying on a very extensive business. The present officers are William M. Titus, president and manager; Joseph A. Ordway, treasurer; Frank E. Powell, assistant treasurer; John J. Linehan, secretary.

Having thus referred at some length to many of the older manufacturing interests, both individual and corporate, of Springfield, it will be seen that from the early years of the century just closed this city has been an industrial center of far more than ordinary prominence. In preceding paragraphs the writer has attempted to mention as many as possible of the labor employing establishments which had an existence previous to ten years ago, yet doubtless many concerns have been omitted which are deserving of notice. The claim has been made, and with undoubted fairness, that at least 20,000 of the city's population are daily employed in the numerous factories which are now in operation, and also that the city has as many as 200 establishments in which material is improved or manufactured. Many of these concerns are conducted by individual owners, or partnership proprietors, while an equal number are carried on

by corporate companies organized under the general laws of the state. In succeeding paragraphs it is our purpose to mention briefly the names of the persons, firms and companies now or recently in the city and engaged in industrial pursuits; and if any are omitted it is the result of oversight rather than design, and none can be noticed at length if the writer adheres to the policy of this work in declining to advertise the business of any man or company.

In addition to the industries mentioned in preceding paragraphs a passing allusion may be made to others, many of which have come into existence during the last twenty years. Among these mention may be made of the Mill River Machine shops, of which Humphrey Ford is proprietor; R. P. Whipple & Co., makers of patent automatic blind hangers; the Chadwick Copying Book Co.; the Springfield Printing and Binding Co.; the R. H. Long Shoe Mfg. Co.; Chamberlain & Co., brass founders, coppersmiths and machinists; D. J. Curtis & Son, Phillips Bros., and Potter & Potter, brick manufacturers; the Chandler Co., E. A. Evans & Co., Warren S. Rogers, and Charles Workheiser, button makers; John W. Russell and E. S. Stacy, button machinery makers; Burgin Bros. and the Iroquois Mfg. Co., manufacturers of canvas goods; the New England Card and Paper Co., D. L. Swan's Sons, proprietors; the Hodges Fibre Carpet Co., of Indian Orchard; Morris H. Barnett, Margerum Bros., the Massasoit Co., Adolph Weber, Joseph Whitcomb, & Co. and H. P. Wright, cigar manufacturers; the Century Mfg. Co., makers of butchers' frocks and overalls; Wadsworth, Howland & Co., coach color makers; the Natick Underwear Co., T. M. Walker & Co., sash, door and blind makers; the Moore Drop Forging Co.; the Hampden Corundum Wheel Co., at Brightwood; the Baker Extract Co., the Crown Chemical Co.; the Fast Color Eyelet Co.; the Springfield Covered Eyelet Co.; George A. Schastey, maker of architectural woodwork; Burgin Bros. and the Planet Mfg. Co., makers of horse feed bags; the Tucker & Cook Mfg. Co., knitting cotton manufacturers; the Hopkinson machine works; the Springfield Iron works; the Olmstead & Tuttle Co.,

makers of wiping and packing wastes and fleece filled mattresses and pillows; the Springfield Felting Co., F. J. Millea, proprietor; L. W. Brown & Co., the Burgess Paper Box Co., P. P. Kellogg & Co., Ernest C. King, N. W. Merrill, and C. C. Taylor & Co., paper box makers; the United Mfg. Co., manufacturers of paper collars.

In the same manner a brief allusion may be made to the incorporated or stock companies, the operations of which have contributed so materially to the growth and prosperity of the city. A glance over the list will disclose the fact that most of these companies have been incorporated within the last twenty years, the period in which Springfield has attained a greater manufacturing prominence than at any previous time in its history.

The A. F. Leonard company was incorporated Dec. 27, 1894. The A. & T. Fairbanks Confectionery Co. was incorporated Oct. 4, 1897, with $15,000 capital; officers, Arthur T. Fairbanks, president and treasurer. The Alaska Knitting Co. was incorporated April 28, 1900. The Atlas Pulp Co. was incorporated March 30, 1885. The Aerated Fuel Co. was incorporated in 1887, capital, $250,000; officers, H. A. Chapin, president; Charles E. Stickney, secretary, and J. H. Bullard, treasurer and manager. The American Flax Co. was incorporated in January, 1896, capital, $125,000; officers, Harry G. Chapin, president; John H. Clune, secretary and treasurer. The Bausch & Harris Machine Tool Co. was incorporated April 4, 1896, with $75,000 capital. The business was originally established in 1880. The officers are William H. Bausch, president and general manager; George H. Bausch, vice-president and superintendent; Samuel L. Pratt, treasurer. The Baker Extract Co. was incorporated in 1892, capital, $50,000, for the manufacture of flavoring extracts, succeeding a business established in 1879 by Maurice Baker; officers, Edwin L. Smith, president; Frank L. Worthy, vice-president; T. Walter Carman, secretary and treasurer. The Bemis Car Box Co., manufacturers of the Bemis patent journal and gear, was incorporated in 1885, capital, $300,000; officers, Sumner A. Bemis, president, and George M. Hoadley, manager. The Bemis & Call

Hardware and Tool Co., manufacturers of combination nut and pipe wrenches and other tools, was incorporated in 1855; officers, W. Chaplin Bemis, president and treasurer; Howard R. Bemis, assistant treasurer, and John C. Beggs, secretary. The Blair Mfg. Co. was incorporated in 1884, with $25,000 capital; officers, W. A. Loud, president; A. B. Case, treasurer and manager, and C. L. Brooks, secretary. The Blake Mfg. Co. was incorporated Feb. 10, 1892, capital, $15,000; officers, George A. Russell, president; William E. Blake, treasurer, and James A. Bill, secretary. The Brightwood Box Machinery Co. was incorporated in 1895, capital, $50,000; officers, L. W. Brown, president; Alfred Birnie, treasurer; Donald Birnie, secretary. The Brightwood Brick Co. was incorporated in March, 1900, capital, $18,000; officers, E. M. Coates, president; W. H. Selvey, secretary and treasurer. The Brooks Bank Note Co. was incorporated in 1896, capital, $75,000; officers, J. L. Brooks, president, and A. D. Cutler, treasurer. The Bullard Camera Co. was incorporated Sept. 30, 1899, capital, $100,000; officers, Elisha Morgan, president, and Henry H. Bowman, treasurer. The Chapin & Gould Paper Co. was incorporated in March, 1900, capital, $200,000; officers, Henry A. Gould, president; Edward H. Sterns, treasurer, and Henry G. Chapin, secretary. The Confectioners' Machinery and Mfg. Co. was incorporated in 1893, capital, $200,000; officers, F. H. Page, president; Henry H. Bowman, treasurer, and George C. Baldwin, jr., secretary. The C. W. Mutell Mfg. Co. was incorporated Oct. 31, 1890. The Cycle and Tool Co. was incorporated Nov. 13, 1896, capital, $27,000; officers, William C. Brown, president; William C. Marsh, treasurer, and Chester E. Clemens, clerk. The Davis Tire Co. was incorporated in December, 1900, capital, $100,000; officers, C. S. VanAuker, president; William F. Ellis, treasurer; Robert Knight, secretary. The Dickinson Hard Rubber Co. was incorporated Feb. 6, 1880, capital, $40,000; officers James Duckworth, president and treasurer, and George H. Empsall, secretary. The E. Stebbins Mfg. Co., brass founders and finishers, at Brightwood, was incorporated February 13, 1868, capital, $50,000; officers, H. M. Brewster, president and treasurer; E. P. Marsh, agent. The Duckworth Chain Mfg. Co. was incorporated

in 1900, capital $15,000; officers, James Duckworth, president and treasurer, and George H. Empsall, secretary. The Elektron Mfg. Co., builders of elevators, hoists and electrical appliances, was incorporated in 1888, capital, $200,000; officers, W. D. Sargent, president; W. E. Wright, vice-president; E. H. Cutler, manager; Leon J. Harley, superintendent. The P. P. Emory Mfg. Co. was incorporated Nov. 30, 1890, capital, $30,000; officers, George C. Kimball, president; A. W. Allen, vice-president; George W. Kimball, treasurer and manager. The F. L. Hewes Paint Co. was incorporated Jan. 19, 1894, capital, $6,000. The Fisk Mfg. Co., makers of fine toilet and other soaps for all domestic uses, was incorporated Nov. 10, 1880, capital, $50,000; officers, George C. Fisk, president and treasurer, and Harry G. Fisk, agent. The Fisk Rubber Co. was incorporated in 1898, capital, $33,000; officers, Harry C. Fisk, president, secretary and treasurer. The Gilbert & Barker Co. was incorporated March 31, 1870, capital, $40,000; officers, J. F. Barker, president; W. C. Clarke, treasurer, and W. T. Rayner, clerk. The Hampden Corundum Wheel Co. was incorporated in 1888, capital, $16,000; Willard P. Lashure, president and treasurer, and Julian S. Deane, secretary. The Hampden Zinc and Lead Co. was incorporated Jan. 10, 1900, capital, $150,000; officers, Julius F. Carman, president; N. E. Russell, vice-president; George C. Tait, secretary and treasurer. The Hendee Mfg. Co. was incorporated Oct. 6, 1898, capital, $5,000; officers, George M. Hendee, president and treasurer; A. M. Coleman, secretary. The Hodges Fibre Carpet Co. was incorporated in 1893, capital, $1,000,000; officers, A. J. Bailey, president; H. K. Wight, vice-president; Frank F. Hodges, secretary and manager; William M. Stevenson, supt. The Holyoke Card and Paper Co. was incorporated March 10, 1884, capital, $150,000; officers, Franklin Pierce, president; Henry H. Bowman, treasurer, and Frank Merriam, secretary. The Hough Cash Recorder Co. was incorporated Nov. 13, 1895, capital, $30,000; officers, W. C. Godfrey, president; H. K. Wight, treasurer, and Henry C. Spence, general manager. The Hutchins Narrow Fabric Co. was incorporated Aug. 12, 1896, capital, $40,000; officers, George R. Bond, president;

Charles D. Bond, secretary, E. W. Bond, treasurer. The Indian Orchard Co., one of the most extensive fabric manufacturing concerns in Indian Orchard, was incorporated March 24, 1890, capital, $350,000; officers, A. N. Mayo, president; Elisha Morgan, vice-president, and H. K. Wight, treasurer. The Larsson Whip Co. was incorporated in January, 1901, capital, $25,000; officers, Henry W. Larsson, president and manager, and Robert S. Gunn, secretary and treasurer. The Leukos Co., manufacturers of gas machines, was incorporated in April, 1901; officers, C. B. Boynton, president; Charles E. Flagg, secretary; Myron B. Spooner, treasurer. The R. H. Long Shoe Mfg. Co. was incorporated in 1897, capital, $30,000; officers, R. H. Long, president; J. M. Clough, treasurer. The Metal Castings Mfg. Co. was incorporated March 4, 1901, capital, $150,000; officers, E. P. Chapin, president; Fred. Carpenter, secretary; W. F. P. Fogg, treasurer. The M. D. Stebbins Mfg. Co. was incorporated Dec. 30, 1896. The Metallic Drawing Roll Co. was incorporated in July, 1890, capital, $80,000; officers, Julius H. Appleton, president; H. K. Wight, treasurer; Henry C. Spence, general manager. The Moore Drop Forging Co. was incorporated Oct. 11, 1900, capital, $30,000; officers, Henry E. Marsh, president; Fred. S. Sibley, treasurer and manager. The Munder Electrical Works Co. was incorporated in 1889, capital, $200,000; officers, S. A. Bemis, president; C. F. Munder, treasurer; George M. Hoadley, secretary. The Natrick Underwear Co. was incorporated in 1897, capital, $30,000; officers, D. Edward Miller, president; E. E. Carlton, treasurer. The National Papeterie Co. was incorporated January 15, 1889, capital, $100,000; officers, George A. Russell, president; James A. Bill, jr., treasurer; Louis G. Scheuing, assistant treasurer; A. G. Bennett, clerk. The Novelty Blind Operator Co. was incorporated March 16, 1901, capital, $100,000; officers, Hiram D. Osborn, president; Charles P. Chase, treasurer; John Aldrich, secretary. The Planet Mfg. Co. was incorporated Jan. 8, 1898, capital, $25,000; officers, Roscoe R. Moody, president and general manager; Robert Gowdy, vice-president; J. F. Dietz, secretary; Charles S. Browning, treasurer. The J. H. Rogers Car-

riage Co. was incorporated in January, 1893, capital, $40,000; officers, S. A. Bemis, president; Charles B. Brown, secretary; F. H. Chapman, treasurer. The George A. Schastey Co. was incorporated in April, 1891, capital, $120,000; officers, J. P. Harding, president and manager; O. K. Merrill, treasurer. The Sherbet-Tade Co. was incorporated in November, 1900, capital, $100,000, for the manufacture of soda fountain syrups; officers, C. E. Worthen, president; W. W. Bellows, secretary; A. M. Worthen, treasurer. The Skalon Whip Co. was incorporated in January, 1901, capital, $200,000; officers, George Birnie, president; Julian Pomeroy, vice-president and secretary. The R. H. Smith Mfg. Co. was incorporated January 2, 1884, with $20,000 capital, yet the history of the company in fact dates back to 1865, when the business had its beginning. Officers, R. H. Smith, president and treasurer; H. M. Smith, vice-president; Henry P. Smith, clerk and secretary. The Springfield Paper Co. was incoporated in 1870 and in 1882. The Springfield Brass Co. was incorporated April 1, 1890, capital, $25,000; officers, L. B. Porter, president; H. C. Cornwell, manager. The Springfield Breweries Co. was incorporated in March, 1899, capital, $2,500,000; officers, M. H. Curley, president; D. W. C. Skates, treasurer. The Springfield Brick Co. was incorporated July 18, 1899, capital, $50,000; officers, A. N. Mayo, president; George E. Frink, secretary and treasurer. The Springfield Co-operative Milk Association was incorporated in 1883, capital, $30,000; officers, O. A. Parks, president; F. B. Allen, secretary and treasurer. The Springfield Drop Forging Co. was incorporated May 18, 1893, capital, $100,000; officers, William H. Crosby, president; A. D. Dana, treasurer and manager; W. W. Merrill, secretary. The Springfield Coil Boiler Co. was incorporated July 12, 1893. The Sprinfield Door, Sash and Blind Co. was incorporated August 12, 1891. The Springfield Electrical Mfg. Co. was incorporated May 11, 1900, capital, $10,000; officers, H. E. Bosworth, president; B. C. Starr, treasurer; H. H. Curtis, secretary. The Springfield Construction Co. was incorporated January 18, 1896, capital, $20,000, for the purpose of construction of iron and steel bridges. The Springfield Ele-

vator and Pump Co. was incorporated April 2, 1896, capital, $100,000; officers, John Mayher, president; James Hale, treasurer. The Springfield Engine Stop Co. was incorporated in August, 1895, capital, $100,000; officers, J. D. Millea, president; M. J. Carroll, secretary and treasurer. The Springfield Eureka Hard Plaster Co. was incorporated Nov. 21, 1895, capital, $20,000; officers, A. L. Wright, president; D. W. Mellen, vice-president; W. T. Gregg, secretary; W. T. Underwood, treasurer and manager. The Springfield Foundry Co. was established in 1870 and incorporated Oct. 9, 1877, capital, $100,000. The Springfield Glazed Paper Co. was incorporated May 4, 1874, capital, $100,000; officers, W. H. Shuart, president; John F. Marsh, treasurer (works at the west end of old toll bridge.) The Springfield Iron Works was incorporated May 1, 1895, capital, $20,000; officers, James Gibbons, president and treasurer; Edmund DeWitt, secretary. The Springfield Knitting Co. was incorporated May 6, 1892; officers, Gurdon Bill, president; Nathan D. Bill, treasurer; C. B. Potter, secretary and manager. The Springfield Machine Screw Co. was incorporated August 10, 1895, capital, $5,500; officers, Edward S. Bradford, president; Edward S. Bradford, jr., secretary and treasurer. The Springfield Narrow Fabric Co. was incorporated April 8, 1890. The Springfield Planing and Moulding Co. was incorporated January 3, 1894. The Springfield Steam Power Co. was incorporated March 28, 1881, capital, $200,000; officers, George C. Fisk, president; Henry S. Hyde, treasurer; L. C. Hyde, clerk; J. W. Hyde, assistant treasurer and manager. The Springfield Waste Co. was incorporated March 24, 1884, capital, $150,000; officers, George E. Howard, president and treasurer. The Springfield Weaving Co. was incorporated July 23, 1878. The Springfield Webbing Co. was incorporated June 25, 1894, capital, $15,000; officers, Joseph Merriam, president; L. F. Denio, treasurer. The Standard Brick Co. was incorporated April 17, 1884, capital, $5,000; officers, J. S. Sanderson, president; A. N. Mayo, treasurer; George E. Frink, secretary. The Standard Button Co. was incorporated Feb. 10, 1893, capital, $4,000; officers, Mrs. J. W. Holton, president; J. W. Holton, treasurer. The Standard

Envelope Co. was incorporated April 7, 1882. The J. W. Steers & Son Organ Co. was incorporated May 1, 1901, capital, $50,000; officers, George A. Bacon, president and secretary; A. L. White, vice-president and manager. The United Electric Light Co. was incorporated May 9, 1887, capital, $500,000; officers, Elisha Morgan, president; W. A. Lincoln, treasurer; Henry S. Anderson, manager. The United States Compound Oxygen Co. was incorporated January 19, 1886. The United States Envelope Machine Co. was incorporated March 19, 1886. The United States Spring Bed Co. was incorporated June 18, 1889, capital, $10,000; officers, H. H. Bowman, president; F. M. Tinkham, treasurer and manager. The Victor Sporting Goods Co. was incorporated in 1898, capital, $50,000; officers, F. J. Faulkner, president; C. B. Whitney, treasurer. The Whittier Mills Co. was incorporated in 1898, capital, $70,000; officers, H. A. Whittier, president; Nelson Whittier, treasurer; Walter R. B. Whittier, manager. The Wight-Thayer Co. of Indian Orchard, was incorporated July 21, 1898, capital, $10,000; officers, Charles H. Thayer, president and secretary; Henry K. Wight, treasurer.

CHAPTER VII.

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD—CHURCHES

CONGREGATIONAL

The First Church of Christ—The mother church of Springfield, from which during the first century of its history there were set off several parishes, and from which in later years, both directly and indirectly, there have been numerous offshoots, is said by various writers to have been established in 1637, when George Moxon was settled as minister of the parish. A doubt exists as to the exact time of Mr. Moxon's settlement, the town records giving no clear light as to whether he was settled in 1637 or in the year following. The present writer is inclined to the

The First Church of Christ, Springfield

belief that the church in fact was established May 14, 1636, when the little colony of planters under Mr. Pynchon entered into solemn compact with one another and framed articles of government, the second declaration of which reads as follows: "Wee intend, by God's grace, as soon as wee can, with all convenient speede, to procure some Godly and faithfull minister, with whom wee purpose to joyne, to walk in all the ways of Christ."

Inasmuch as the settlement of a minister is not prerequisite to the establishment of a church, and that the latter action is dependent only upon the declaration and intention of the covenanters, it is a question whether the First church of Christ in Springfield was not founded in 1636.

In 1645 a meeting house was built near the southeast corner of what is now court square. It was 25 x 40 feet in size and faced south, on Meeting house lane (now Elm street). This structure was one of the few buildings of the town that escaped destruction by the Indians on the occasion of the burning of Springfield during King Philip's war, yet in 1677 it was replaced by a more commodious structure, the latter standing farther west and quite within the limits of the square. The third meeting house was larger than either of its predecessors, being 46 x 60 feet in dimensions and 26 feet between joints. It stood directly east of the present church edifice and on the square. The fourth and present edifice was erected in 1819 and still stands, and notwithstanding its more than four score years of service it now is an attractive and comfortable building, and one around which cluster a thousand historic memories. Although devoid of architectural display its exterior is pleasing in every sense, and great care has been exercised to preserve it against the ravages of time and the elements. So, too, with the interior, which retains much of its original appearance, except that modern heating appliances have replaced the old-time foot-stoves and the magnificent pipe organ now stands back of the pastor's desk instead of occupying a niche in the rear gallery, as did its predecessor. The old high pulpit was first lowered in 1854. Cushions were placed in the pews in 1862. Modern customs of worship prevail, but other than is noted the aim has been to preserve the interior in accord-

ance with the ideas of the builders in 1819. The chapel east of the edifice, and connecting therewith, was built in 1872.

For more than a century and three-quarters the mother church of Springfield was supported at the common expense of the townspeople, and when during the latter years of the eighteenth century the region had become settled with families of other denominations, there naturally arose some opposition to the payment of church rates where the people were not Congregationalists and preferred the associations of their own church. The collection of rates was enforced until about the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the custom became unpopular and was finally swept aside. However, since that time the old society never has suffered from lack of support, and to-day the First church is the largest and most influential ecclesiastical body in the city, having a total membership of more than 1,100 persons.

The ministers and pastors of the First church have been as follows: George Moxon, 1637 (or 1638)-1652; Mr. Hosford, 1653; Thomas Thomson, 1655-56; Mr. Hooker, 1656, three months; Pelatiah Glover, 1660-92; John Haynes, 1693, a few months; Daniel Brewer, May 16, 1694-1733, died 1733; Robert Breck, Jan. 26, 1734-1784, died 1784; Bezaleel Howard, D. D., April 27, 1785-1809, died 1837; Samuel Osgood, D. D., Jan. 25, 1809-1854, died 1862; Henry M. Parsons, Nov. 15, 1854-1870; Edward A. Reed, June 14, 1871-1878; Edward P. Terhune, D. D., April 30, 1879-1884; Michael Burnham, Feb. 27, 1885-1894; Frank L. Goodspeed, D. D., Nov., 1894—the present pastor.

Olivet Church—In December, 1832, eleven members of the First church requested letters of dismission for the purpose of organizing another Congregational society in Springfield, whose house of worship should be located on Armory hill for the especial accommodation of families living in that rapidly growing vicinity. The application received the approval of the mother society and on January 8, 1883, the Fourth Congregational church of Springfield was duly organized with nineteen constituent members. The Sabbath school was organized on the third Sunday in January of the same year, with four teachers and twelve pupils. This church has been known by the name of Oli-

vet since March, 1855, although the act of the legislature authorizing its adoption was not passed until March 31, 1875. The first services of the new society were held in what was known as the Conference house, a brick building standing at the corner of High street and Woodworth avenue. The first church edifice was built on State street in 1834 and still stands, although constantly increasing membership has necessitated subsequent enlargements

Olivet Church, Springfield

and substantial repairs to the original structure. The vestry, Sunday school and society building was erected in 1878.

Olivet church for many years has been an important and influential factor in the ecclesiastical history of the city. The present members number more than 300 persons, while the Sunday school has more than 200 pupils. The pastors of the church, in succession, have been as follows: Waters Warren, minister, Jan. 8, 1833-April 8, 1833; Abraham C. Baldwin, Dec. 4, 1833-Jan. 8, 1839; Ezekiel Russell, D. D., May 15, 1839-July 17, 1849; Samuel

W. Strong, March 27, 1850-Oct. 10, 1852; Henry B. Elliott, minister, Jan. 16, 1853-Oct. 29, 1854; George DeF. Folsom, May 23, 1855-Sept. 1, 1860; W. W. Woodworth, minister, Sept. 23, 1860-March 3, 1862; George H. Gould, D. D., minister, June 1, 1862-June 1, 1864; William K. Hall, minister, April 15, 1865-April 2, 1866; John A. Hamilton, minister, April 1, 1867-July 1, 1867; Luther H. Cone, Oct. 30, 1867-now pastor emeritus; Edwin H. Hadlock, Ph.D., June 20, 1899—the present pastor.

South Congregational Church—Nothwithstanding the organization of the Third society in 1819 and the Fourth in 1833, the rapid increase in population in the town during the ten years next following the latter date necessitated the formation of still another church society. Consequently, in 1842 the parish of the South Congregational society was organized with 40 original members and was an offshoot from the mother church on Court square, including in its membership a number of the leading business and professional men of the town, and their families. Early services were held in the old court house on Sanford street, and the first house of worship was built on Bliss street. Its cost, including the chapel adjoining, was less than $10,000. The present church edifice on Maple street was erected in 1874, and then (as now) was regarded as one of the most pretentious structures of its kind in the city.

Throughout the period of its history the South church has had but three regular pastorates,[1] covering an aggregate of almost three-score years. The first pastor was Rev. Noah Porter, jr., from 1843 to 1847, followed by the memorable pastorate of Rev. Dr. Samuel G. Buckingham, who both in church work and in the interests of all the institutions of the city always labored for the public good, and often at the expense of personal comfort. He retired from active church work in 1894, but was regarded as pastor emeritus until the time of his death, July 12, 1898. Rev. Dr. Philip S. Moxom succeeded to the pastorate in April, 1894, and still serves in that capacity. Under his ministry here the

[1]On May 7, 1885, Rev. Edward G. Selden was installed associate and active pastor, and worked in conjunction with Dr. Buckingham, pastor, active and emeritus, until October 5, 1893, when he was dismissed.

church membership has increased to nearly 500 persons, while the Sunday school has 270 pupils.

North Congregational Church—In the spring of 1846 a number of meetings were held for the discussion of a proposition to organize another Congregational society in Springfield, and the result was the adoption of a constitution and articles of faith by a number of interested persons; and with this informal organization the little society secured the services of Rev. Robert H. Conklin, and in September of that year began holding meetings in Frost's hall. The more formal church organization was perfected on Oct. 28, with 22 constituent members. The Sunday school was formed Nov. 11, George White being the first superintendent. In September, 1847, the church acting in the capacity of a parish purchased a lot of land at the southeast corner of Main and Worthington streets, and built thereon a chapel; and in the following month the society hired for use during the winter months the old structure on Sanford street which was known as the "Free church." However, the lot above mentioned was soon sold and in place thereof the society purchased a new lot on the west side of Main street, north of Bridge street. In March, 1848, the church was duly incorporated, and in the same year a substantial edifice was built on the new site. It was completed and formally dedicated March 1, 1849, the day of the installation of the first pastor.

In 1871 this property was sold for $46,000, and a new site was purchased, the land being located at the corner of Salem street and the avenue of the same name. Here a large edifice was erected in 1873, the dedicatory services being held September 18. The cost of the structure, including the chapel, was more than $53,000.

The North church at present has a membership of 440 persons, and in its Sunday school are 315 pupils. A colony of fifty-five members of this church was organized into the Memorial church by a council held in the vestry of the former church, October 27, 1865. The succession of pastors of the North church is as follows: Raymond H. Seelye, D. D., March 1, 1849-Jan. 26, 1858; James Drummond, June 16, 1858, died in the pastorate

Nov. 29, 1861; L. Clarke Seelye, D. D., LL. D., Jan. 20, 1863-May 31, 1865; Richard G. Greene, May 13, 1866-Oct., 1874; Washington Gladden, D. D., LL. D., Feb. 1, 1875-Dec. 7, 1882; Charles VanOrden, D. D., LL. D., May 13, 1883-Oct. 11, 1886; W. L. Gage, D. D., April 16, 1887-one year; F. Barrows Makepeace, Oct. 6, 1888-1899; Newton M. Hall, Oct. 4, 1899—the present pastor.

Indian Orchard Church—The First Congregational society of Indian Orchard was organized March 23, 1848, with fifteen members under the pastoral care of Rev. Luther H. Cone, late pastor and now pastor emeritus of Olivet church. In 1856 the Ward Manufacturing company gave the society two lots at the corner of Main and Oak streets, and in 1863 a neat house of worship was erected thereon. In the course of a few years the society became disorganized and the church property passed into the hands of Harvey Butler and later of the Indian Orchard Mill company. In the late winter of 1865 a reorganization was effected, and Mr. Rice was called to the pastorate. From that time the church maintained a fairly healthful existence, although not always self-supporting. The present members number 161 persons, with a Sunday school of 200 pupils. The church at present is without a pastor.

Hope Congregational Church—This church, now among the first in point of numerical strength in the city, had its inception in the successful work of a mission Sunday school which was opened in the eastern central part of the city in 1865 by a number of interested members of the South church. At first these sessions of the school, with occasional informal church services, were held in dwelling houses, but later on a barn in Union street was purchased and fitted up for Sunday occupancy. In 1870 a small chapel building—Hope Chapel—was erected, but in the course of the next five years three separate enlargements of the original structure were necessary. In 1875 Charles Morgan, a recent graduate of Yale Divinity school, was called to take charge of the mission work, and in the same year articles of faith and by-laws for a new church were adopted. On March 15, 1876, a church was regularly organized and Mr. Morgan was ordained

and installed as its first pastor. On November 14 the chapel was removed to a new location at the corner of State and Winchester streets, and during the succeeding five years the increase in interest and membership was such that a new and larger house of worship was a necessity. On September 24, 1882, the corner stone of the present attractive edifice was laid with impressive ceremonies, and the completed structure was occupied for the first time, October 14, 1883. Its cost was $38,000. However, before three more years had passed there was a call for "more room," and in 1887 galleries were constructed in the auditorium, increasing the seating capacity of the edifice from 900 to a little more than 1,200 persons.

Although one of the younger religious bodies of the city Hope church, like the First church from which it sprung, has itself been a prolific mother. Let us briefly mention its principal offshoots:

Emmanuel Church—In the latter part of 1881 a Sunday school was formed in the school house on the East Longmeadow road and was conducted by four young men from Hope church. A Sunday evening prayer meeting was held and also occasional preaching services. A neat chapel was subsequently erected on White street by the standing committee of Hope church, and was dedicated December 7, 1884. On November 20, 1888, the mission was organized into Emmanuel Congregational church, with a membership of 45 and a Sunday school of 103 pupils. This church now numbers 77 members and is under the pastoral care of Rev. David L. Kebbe, who was called to that office in 1895.

Eastern Avenue Church—The Eastern Avenue chapel was erected by the standing committee of Hope church in the early part of 1884. In July of that year Rev. Orville Reed, associate pastor of Hope church, took charge of the work both at the Eastern avenue and the White street missions. On February 22, 1888, the mission was organized into a church with 58 members and 160 Sunday school attendants. The chapel building has since been enlarged. Although temporarily without a pastoral head the Eastern Avenue church has a present membership of 123 persons, while in its Sunday school are 177 pupils.

The Park Church—In 1887 Hope church evangelization society purchased the lot at the corner of St. James avenue and Clarendon street and erected thereon a dwelling house, finishing the lower floor for use as a chapel. The growth of the locality soon made it evident that enlarged accommodations would be needed, upon which the dwelling was removed and the erection of the present chapel was begun in August, 1888. The building was completed in May, 1889. In June of that year a church was organized with 56 members and a Sunday school of 136 pupils. This church has a present membership of 64 persons, and from 1896 to the early part of 1901 was under the pastoral charge of Rev. Allen E. Cross.

St. John's Church—For several years Hope church was interested in a work among colored people of the city, and in carrying out that work a chapel was built in Quincy street. In 1890, by the union of the Sanford street church and the Quincy street mission, St. John's church was organized with a membership of 23 persons and a Sunday school of 60 attendants. Since that time the church has enjoyed a quiet, steady growth.

Thus it is our privilege to note in part the commendable work originating with and carried to successful results by the enterprising benevolence and truly missionary spirit of Hope church, a comparatively young but in point of membership the second in numerical strength among the Congregational churches of the city. Notwithstanding the fact that it frequently has contributed its members to offshoot bodies, the mother church has a present membership of 678 persons, and in its Sunday school are 662 pupils.

The succession of pastors, their associates and co-workers, of Hope church is as follows: Charles Lincoln Morgan, March 15, 1876-November 1, 1880; David Allen Reed, June 7, 1881-December 23, 1889; Orville Reed, in charge of Eastern Avenue and White street chapels, 1884-86, and co-pastor of Hope church, 1886-88; Ralph Watson Brokaw, co-pastor, 1888-89, pastor, 1889-98; Samuel H. Woodrow, September 1, 1898—the present pastor.

The French Church—The society of this church was the outgrowth of missionary work among the French residents of

Springfield during the years immediately preceding 1886. The church organization was perfected in 1886 and since that time has been one of the institutions of the city. The house of worship is located in Bliss street. Since 1897 this parish has been under the pastoral care of Rev. Thomas S. St. Aubin, the members numbering 37 persons.

The Swedish Congregational Church, which does not appear in the minutes of the general association as one of the regular societies of that denomination in the city, was organized in 1891, and now is under the pastoral charge of Rev. Gustave Lindstrom.

Faith Congregational Church—With a house of worship at the corner of Fort Pleasant and Sumner avenues, was organized in 1894; pastor, Rev. D. Butler Pratt.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Asbury First M. E. Church—Bishop Asbury visited Springfield as early as 1791 and preached his first sermon on July 15 of that year. He again visited the town in 1794-95, and was followed by other missionary laborers, all of whom worked faithfully for the establishment of a permanent Methodist Episcopal church in the locality. Preaching services were held in dwellings, and a class was formed as a result of the work in 1796. These services were continued with more or less regularity until 1801, when circuit preachers ceased their visits and left whatever was of public worship under Methodist teachings to the local preachers of the neighborhood. In 1815 the class and society were reorganized by William Marsh and were made a part of the Tolland circuit. In 1819 Springfield was made a separate station and Daniel Dorchester was appointed pastor; and in addition to his regular labors this worthy teacher of Methodism also taught school in the old block house on the armory grounds. About this time the meetings were held alternately in the school house near the corner of Hancock and Central streets, at the Watershops, and also in the armory chapel on the hill, with occasional services in the old court house In 1820 Moses Fifield was sent to take charge of the local services, and in the same year a

chapel was built at the Watershops. This was the first regular church home of Methodism in Springfield, and at the time there were only fifteen churches of that denomination in Massachusetts. However, the first sermon in the little chapel was preached by Elder Sawyer, a minister of the Baptist church. In 1835 the building was enlarged, but finally was made into a tenement house. In 1821 Thomas Asbury, a local preacher, was employed to assist Mr. Fifield, and in 1823 a new meeting house was built in Union street, to which place the old organization was transferred, although occasional services were continued to be held at the Watershops until 1832, when regular preaching was re-established there.

In 1834 a great revival increased the number of local Methodists to 346, and in the following year the society was divided into two separate churches and a pastor was appointed for each. In 1844 a new church was organized and a new house of worship was built in Pynchon street, to which place the Asbury members were transferred. Ten years later preaching was resumed at the old church edifice and the pulpit was supplied by Miner Raymond, D. D., principal of Wesleyan academy at Wilbraham. In 1860 the old society was once more constituted a church, and was placed under the pastoral care of Samuel Jackson. In 1865 the erection of a new house of worship was begun, the structure being located in Florence street, from which fact it was called the Florence Street M. E. church. The corner-stone address was delivered by William Rice, and in November, 1866, Bishop Simpson preached the dedicatory sermon. In 1871 the name was changed to Asbury First M. E. church, by which it since has been known.

The change in name to Asbury First church established historical connection with Bishop Asbury, the founder of Methodism in Springfield; and the entertainment of the 100th session of the New England conference by the mother church in 1896 was an eminently fitting event. In church circles in Springfield Asbury First exercises a wide influence for good, and its pulpit has been filled with the best material at the command of the conference. The church now numbers 307 members.

Glancing back into the history of the church and society, we may recall the names of many of its ministers and pastors, as

nearly as possible in the order of succession: Daniel Dorchester (1819), Moses Fifield (1820), Thomas Asbury (assistant to Mr. Fifield), Thomas Pierce (1822), John M. Hardy (1823-24), Mr. White and Sanford Benton (1832), Mr. White and Moses Dwight (1833), Bartholmew Otherman and George F. Poole (1834), Ebenezer Blake, H. H. White, J. D. Bridge, W. H. Richards, E. Potter, J. Fleming, E. A. Manning, Miner Raymond, Samuel Jackson, John C. Smith (1862-63), Pliny Wood (1864-65), Mr. Fulton (1866-67), Samuel Roy (1868-69), Charles D. Hills (1870-72), F. K. Stratton (1873-75), W. C. High (1876-77), Joseph Scott (1878); and since 1878: E. P. King, V. N. Simons, Henry Matthews, C. A. Littlefield, Charles Tilton, and W. J. Heath, the latter the present pastor.

The Wesley Church—Although one of the youngest religious societies of the city, the Wesley church is nevertheless descended almost directly from the old Union street society, which dates its history from the year 1823. In that year a large frame meeting house was erected in Union street. The later and more pretentious State street edifice was completed in 1873, at a cost of $80,000, and was dedicated on November 25 of that year, by Bishop Simpson.

St. Luke's church was organized in 1888, the charter therefor bearing date January 14, and under the advice of the committee in charge it was determined to build a chapel at the Highlands. The structure was finished during that year and the society took the name of St. Luke's. During the next ten years this church increased rapidly in strength, and in 1896 it numbered 318 members. The pastors of St. Luke's were George A. Viets, 1888; L. H. Dorchester, 1889-93; W. G. Richardson, 1894-98.

In 1899-1900 the work of uniting State street and St. Luke's churches was undertaken by Rev. Dr. Charles F. Rice, assisted by Dr. Seaman, and the present Wesley church of more than 600 members is the result of their endeavors. More than that, the society is possessed of one of the most complete and attractive church edifices in the city, and under the pastoral guidance of Dr. Rice future success and increased growth are assured.

The pastors of the old Union street church were D. Dorchester, Daniel Webb, Timothy Merritt, Orange Scott, T. C. Pierce,

Hiram H. White, Bartholmew Otherman, A. D. Merrill, William Livesay, John Rice, Charles K. True, Mark Staples, Daniel Wise, R. S. Rust, A. D. Merrill, W. R. Clark, George Landon, J. W. Mowrey, F. A. Griswold, Moses Dwight, C. B. Bragdon, J. M. Barley, Oliver S. Howe, A. O. Hamilton, Daniel Steele, Isaac Cushman, Nelson Stutson, Joseph Scott, Joseph H. Mansfield, John C. Smith.

The pastors of the State street church were R. R. Meredith, Merritt Hubard, J. H. Twombly, Daniel Dorchester, W. T. Perrin, W. E. Knox, C. S. Rogers, W. R. Newhall, W. H. Meredith, T. Corwin Watkins and W. G. Seaman, in the order mentioned.

Trinity Church—This church is a continuation of what many Springfield Methodists remember with affection as the old Pynchon street church. It had its inception in the prayer meetings held in the grand jury room of the court house, and in the same building also was held the meeting at which the church organization was effected, February 9, 1844. On that occasion this resolution was adopted: "We, the members of the Methodist Episcopal church in Springfield, Mass., residing in and about Main street, having advised with our brethren in the other parts of the town, deem it to be our duty to proceed forthwith in the erection of a place of worship." In April, 1844, Jefferson Hascall was assigned to the charge, which at the time had about forty members. The church edifice was dedicated in March, 1845, and immediately the church began to take a leading position in the religious life of the town. The Pynchon street building was maintained and occupied until 1869, and during its history its pastors were as follows: Jefferson Hascall, George Landon, Mark Tafton, Isaac A. Savage, J. D. Bridge, Fales H. Newhall, Jefferson Hascall, Mark Tafton, Nelson Stutson, J. S. Barrows, A. McKeown, William R. Clark and C. D. Hills.

The present Trinity church edifice in Bridge street, near Main street, was dedicated by Bishop Simpson, December 1, 1869, during the pastorate of Mr. Hills. The total cost of the structure, including land, was $73,000. The succession of pastors of Trinity church is as follows: C. D. Hills, 1869; J. O. Peck, 1870-73; Merritt Hubbard, 1873-76; S. F. Upham, 1876-79; F. J. Wagner,

1879-82; Frederick Woods, 1882-85; George Skene, 1885-88; Wallace McMullen, 1888-93; Henry Tuckley, 1893-98; A. C. Skinner, 1898—the present pastor.

This church has a total membership of 690 persons, and is recognized as one of the leading Methodist Episcopal churches in the Connecticut valley.

Grace Church—In the latter part of 1866 there was voiced a strong sentiment in favor of the establishment of a church of this denomination in the south part of the city, and to that end about thirty members of Pynchon street (now Trinity) church withdrew their membership and organized the Central M. E. church. For several years meetings were held in the old Union hall, then in Institute hall, and still later in the old Universalist meeting house, which was rented by the new society. In 1869 a considerable portion of the members withdrew from the new church and returned to the old society; but notwithstanding this loss the others held firmly to their purpose and through their united labors the church continued to grow in strength.

In 1872, Rev. A. J. Cass was appointed pastor, which proved a fortunate event in the history of the church. During his term the name was changed to Grace M. E. church and the large house of worship on Main and Winthrop streets was erected. The formal dedication took place January 19, 1875. The completed edifice cost $73,000. The present membership of the church is 303 persons. The succession of pastors is as follows: Charles A. Merrill, 1867-68; Rev. Dr. Cook, supply, 1869-70; Charles F. Johnson, 1870-71; J. R. Tiddy, 1871-72; J. A. Cass, 1872-76; E. A. Smith, 1876-78; J. O. Knowles, 1878-80; S. B. Sweetser, 1880-83; T. W. Bishop, 1883-86; W. J. Heath, 1886-91; F. H. King, 1891-94; E. P. Herrick, 1894-98; C. E. Spaulding, 1898—the present pastor.

Swedish Church—In the early part of 1893 S. L. Carlander, superintendent of the Swedish missions in the New England conference, visited Springfield and found about one thousand persons of Swedish birth living in the city, only about twenty of whom were members of the church, and all of whom were desirious to have a church home for their own people.

Accordingly, on June 4 of that year, the First Swedish M. E. church was organized, but not until 1901 did the little band secure a house of worship of their own in the erection of the small edifice on Bay street. The present members number about fifty persons. Hilmer Larson was the first pastor, and was succeeded by Peter Frost and Charles Paulson, in the order mentioned.

St. James Church—In 1901 the society of this church erected an attractive house of worship on North Main street, and now as a permanent institution of Methodism it shows a membership of more than 100 persons. The church had its inception in a mission chapel built by subscription in 1879. An organization known as the Union Evangelical church was effected in 1887, but in 1898 a reorganization resulted in a church society under Methodist Episcopal supervision. The name was changed to St. James church, and the new edifice was built in 1901. The pastor is Rev. W. E. Vandermark.

The *Loring Street African M. E.* church, which for several years has been a religious institution of the city, is not allied to the M. E. church of the New England conference. For a time an effort was made to bring the society within the jurisdiction of the conference, but the conditions necessary to effect that end were not fulfilled.

BAPTIST CHURCHES

The First Church—With the establishment of the United States buildings at the Watershops there came to live in Springfield many persons and families who held to religious teachings differing with those of the old First parish church, and whenever opportunity offered both Baptists and Methodists assembled in some convenient place for worship according to their own desires. In 1811 nineteen Baptists formed themselves into the First Baptist society of Springfield, and on May 13 of that year the church was recognized by a regularly convened council according to the rules of the church. The new church began its history with twenty-five members and during the next ten years the number was more than doubled, although the society had no settled pastor and no regular house of worship previous to 1821, when a plain

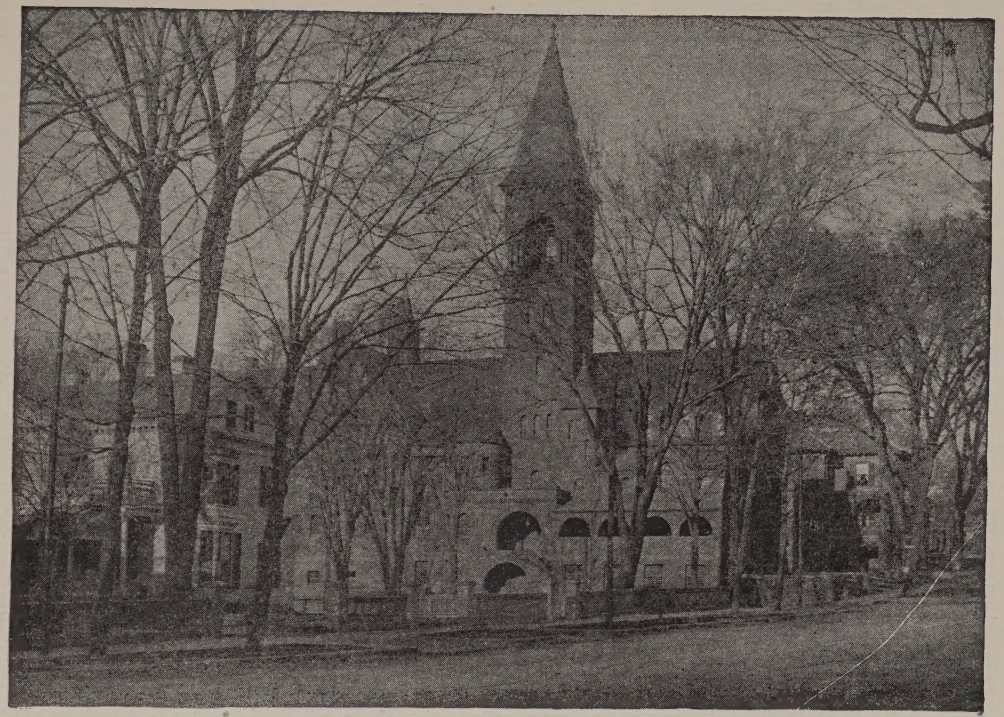
Old Baptist Church, Main Street, Springfield, site of the Republican Building

frame building was erected at the corner of Central and Cherry streets. In the next year Rev. Allen Hough was installed as pastor, at which time the members had increased to 50 persons.

In 1832 a more comfortable house of worship was built at the corner of Maple and Mulberry streets, the dedication services being held September 12. However, during the next fifteen years even this building was found to be too small for the growing congregations, and it was therefore sold and removed to Union street, where it now does service as a dwelling house. Having sold the old meeting house, the Baptist people at once began the erection of a substantial brick and stone edifice at the corner of Main street and Harrison avenue, on ground where now stands the Republican building. The structure, which cost $18,000, was dedicated September 27, 1847. Here in the very heart and center of the business district for the next forty-two years was the principal home of Baptist teaching in the locality. During this long period the old First society sent forth her members to form other churches of the same denomination, more than 100 withdrawing themselves in 1864 to found the State street society, while many others removed to the west; and the First Baptist church of Chicago may almost be called the offspring of the mother church in Springfield. The present splendid edifice on State street was completed and dedicated in 1889, and cost about $90,000. It is one of the largest and most attractive structures of its kind in the city, and when the dedicatory services were concluded the property was free from debt. This society celebrated its 90th anniversary, May 12-13, 1901.

During the period of its history the pastors, in succession, of the First church have been as follows: Allen C. Hough, 1822-25; Joseph Hough, 1825-27; Nicholas Branch, 1827-30; Benjamin Putnam, 1830-36; Dwight Ives, 1836-38; Hiram O. Graves, 1838-40; J. W. Eaton, 1840-43; Humphrey Richards, 1840-46; Minor G. Clark, 1846-50; E. E. Cummings, 1851-52; George B. Ide, D. D.,1852-72; George E. Merrill, 1872-77; C. W. Annable, D. D., 1877-82; Lester L. Potter, 1882-84; George C. Baldwin, 1886-99; William N. Hubbell, 1899—the present pastor.

The State Street Church—On April 10, 1864, the First church granted permission to such members as desired to hold



First Baptist Church, Springfield

separate meetings with the ultimate purpose to establish a new church in the city, and about the same time, agreeable to the prevailing sentiment, an organization was formed under the name of "The Colony of the First Baptist Church." Meetings were held in Union hall, and so great was the interest shown in the movement that on August 7 letters were granted to 121 members of the mother society who, with ten others from other churches, on August 17, organized the State Street Baptist church. On March 20, 1865, the society voted to purchase a lot on State street, opposite Dwight, and on June 21 following, it was voted to build a "brick meeting house" on the site. The corner-stone was laid August 31, 1865, the vestry was dedicated July 8, 1866, and the edifice itself was formally dedicated December 18, 1867. The entire cost of the property was $57,378.

Like the mother society, the State street church has made a progressive historical record and not less than three distinct church societies are numbered among its offshoots. In the fall of 1876 seventy-eight members were dismissed to form the West Springfield church. In 1886 more than one hundred more withdrew to organize the Highland church, and in 1899 fifty-six others went out to establish the Belmont avenue church. But notwithstanding this the State street church always has held a strong membership and to-day is ranked with the leading religious societies of the city, both in influence and numerical strength. The succession of pastors is as follows: A. K. Potter, 1865-83; W. H. P. Faunce, 1884-89; James Grant, 1890-92; B. D. Hahn, D. D., March 26, 1893—the present pastor.

Third Church—This society had its inception in the weekly prayer meetings held in the homes of William M. Clark and Lucy Hicks on Hancock street in the years 1869-70. About 1871 a number of colored families came to Springfield from the South and the State street church offered them the use of its vestry for Sunday afternoon services. In 1872 as the new movement increased in interest rooms were engaged in the Institution for Savings building, and on October 8, the organization of the Pilgrim Baptist church was duly recognized. In 1876, owing to some differences, a split occurred in the new church, and the dissentient

members who withdrew formed what was called the Berean Baptist church. The difficulty, however, was soon repaired, the Berean followers returned, and a reorganization was effected under the name of the Third Baptist church. The house of worship of this society was secured largely through the contributions of generous members of the First and State street churches. The pastors have been as follows: Spencer Harris, Peter Smith, Eli N. Smith, William Garrett, S. Henri Brown, and Eugene C. Brown, the latter the present pastor.

Carew Street Church—On May 22, 1880, several members of the First church organized a Sunday school at the north end of the city in the old "balmoral factory" on Ringgold street, and to this school was given the name of Ward One Baptist mission. In July, 1882, the First church relinquished the work, upon which the mission became an organized society. In 1885 a chapel was built at the corner of Carew and North streets, and on December 13 of that year the building was dedicated. In 1890 it was remodeled and enlarged at an expense of $11,000. On May 12, 1887, a church organization was effected and the name was changed to Carew Street Baptist church, and as such was incorporated December 26, 1889. This is the only Baptist church in the north part of the city and is the source of great good in that locality. Its membership is 296 persons. The pastors, in succession, have been as follows: W. E. Waterbury, 1887-92; S. E. Frohock, 1892-98; Clarence Minard, January to October, 1899; A. P. Wedge, March 1, 1900—the present pastor.

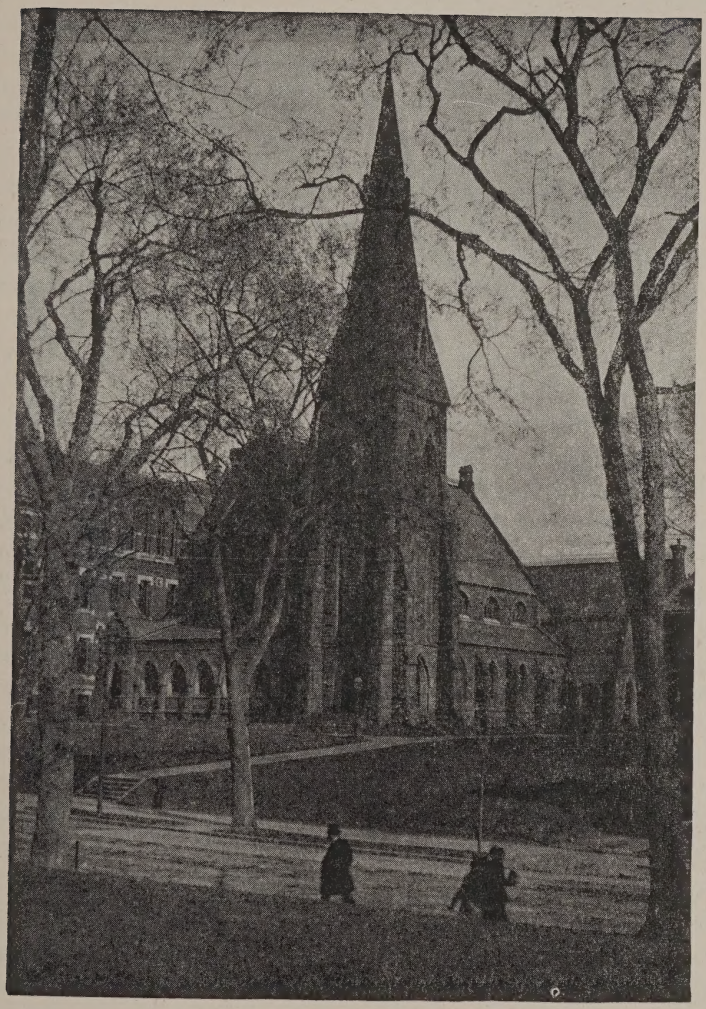
Highland Church—The lot upon which the present edifice stands was purchased in October, 1882. The chapel was dedicated September 27, 1885. The Bible school was organized October 4, 1885, as a branch school of the State street church; and it was organized as an independent school December 27, 1885. The church was organized Dec. 12, 1886, with 119 constituent members, of whom 102 came from the State street society. The church edifice was dedicated June 20, 1893. The present estimated value of the church property is $60,000. To the original 119 members there were added up to January 1, 1901, 602 members, making a total during the history of the church to that time of

721 members; present membership, 497. The pastors have been as follows: George S. Goodspeed, Dec. 12, 1886-June, 1888; George W. Quick, June 1888—the present pastor.

Belmont Avenue Church—This church was organized June 30, 1899. In May, 1889, the State street church voted to accept a building lot at the corner of Belmont and Euclid avenues which had been donated by the late D. L. Swan for the purposes of church extension in the south part of the city. In 1890 Mr. Swan, George A. Russell and George W. Tapley caused a chapel to be built on this lot for occupancy as a Bible school. The interest of the State street society in this mission was continued until June 20, 1899, when 56 members went out to unite with others in the organization of the Belmont avenue church. In 1897 Rev. J. W. Martin was placed in charge of the Belmont and Carlisle missions, and later on in the same year Rev. Willard E. Waterbury became missionary pastor in both fields. In 1899 Mr. Waterbury was made pastor of the Belmont avenue church and now serves in that capacity.

UNITARIAN

Church of the Unity—For nearly ten years previous to the division of the mother church and the creation of the Third Congregational society in Springfield there was a strong inclination on the part of many influential persons and families to separate themselves from the parent body, then under the ministry of Dr. Osgood, but the strong will and determined opposition of that distinguished leader restrained those who would have withdrawn to establish a new society more in accordance with their views on certain doctrinal questions. As years passed the feeling in favor of a separation was strengthened rather than diminished, and on May 27, 1818, fifty-four prominent citizens of the town, nearly if not quite all of them members of the mother church, addressed a petition to the general court asking for an act of incoproation of the Second society of the First parish, with the usual privileges and a portion of the maintenance fund of the parish according to the proportion of taxes for church purposes contributed by the petitioners.



Church of the Unity, Springfield

This suggestion, supported by a numerous following from the best element of the parish, created a storm of opposition from the worthy pastor and a large number of his faithful adherents, but under the careful guidance of Rev. Bezaleel Howard (Dr. Osgood's predecessor in the pastorate of the First church) and Jonathan Dwight, on February 15, 1819, secured an act of incorporation of the "Second Congregational society of the First Parish of Springfield." On January 31, 1820, a supplementary act of the legislature re-incorporated the society under the name of the "Third Congregational society of Springfield"— a name by which it has since been legally and strictly known, although the name, Church of the Unity, is more generally used. It also may be said that distinctively Unitarian doctrines were not avowed by the founders of the new society at the time of the division, but were adopted during the early part of the ministry of Dr. Peabody, the first pastoral head of the church.

In the meantime Mr. Dwight, whose name is previously mentioned, gave increased ardor to the action of the separatists in a generous offer to erect a suitable house of worship at his own cost, on the sole condition that the other members of the society should establish an ample fund for the support of the minister. This was accomplished in the creation of a subscription fund of more than $14,000, and thereafter (May 19) Jonathan Dwight, jr., Dr. Joshua Frost, Robert Emery, Samuel Orne and John Howard were constituted a board of trustees of the society's funds.

The corner-stone of the new edifice was laid with appropriate ceremony on Thursday, May 20, 1819, and on September 12 the house was so far completed that services were held there that day. The structure stood at the corner of State and Willow streets and served the requirements of the society until 1869, when the splendid edifice on State street, one of the most complete and elaborate structures of its kind in the city, was finished and ready for occupancy. The corner-stone was laid May 20, 1867, and on February 14, 1869, the dedicatory service was held. The pastor's residence adjoining the edifice was built in 1886, and was the generous gift of Mrs. Dorcas Chapin.

From the earliest period of its history the Church of the Unity in Springfield has exercised an influence for good, and

among the ecclesiastical bodies of the region it has always held a prominent position. Its founders were among the foremost men of the old First parish and through all succeeding generations the congregations attending service in the Unitarian church have included many of the leading business and professional men of the city. The church now numbers 200 families.

The succession of pastors is as follows: William B. O. Peabody, Oct. 12, 1820-May 28, 1847; George F. Simmons, Feb. 9, 1848-Oct. 12, 1851; Francis Tiffany, Dec. 30, 1852-Jan. 1, 1864; Charles A. Humphreys, Nov. 29, 1865-Jan. 24, 1872; A. D. Mayo, Oct. 1873-Dec. 25, 1879; E. B. Payne, Dec. 28, 1880-Dec. 13, 1883; John Cuckson, Sept. 10, 1884-1892; Bradley Gilman, June, 1892 —the present pastor.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL

Christ Church—As early as the year 1817 Episcopal services were held in the armory chapel by the Rev. Titus Strong, of Greenfield, and in July, 1821, the Rev. Edward Rutledge was made rector of the newly created parish. The results of his work, however, were not entirely satisfactory and despite his patient efforts, coupled with the valuable aid of Col. Roswell Lee, the services were discontinued in 1822, not again to be resumed for fourteen years. During this brief ministry the seed of the church was sown and was destined to yield an abundant harvest in good season. In Mr. Rutledge's time there were only four Episcopal families in the parish, and when in 1835 Rev. Samuel McBurney was sent here "in the hope" that the church might be well established little encouraging results rewarded his endeavors. Today the church numbers twelve hundred communicants.

In 1838, under the leadership of the Rev. Henry W. Lee, son of Col. Lee, a new effort was made to re-establish the church, and in the next ten years, through the assistance of prominent churchmen of Boston, Hartford and Lowell, a modest though comfortable church edifice was built, the parish was reorganized and an act of incorporation was secured. The first edifice was consecrated April 1, 1840, and since that time the church has continued to grow in influence and strength. During Mr. Lee's

rectorship the number of communicants was increased from 20 to 190, and in 1851 it was found necessary to enlarge the church building; and again, soon after 1870, it became apparent that a new, more modern and much larger edifice must be provided. To this end the parishioners directed their energies, with result in the laying of the corner-stone in 1874 of the splendid building on Chestnut street, which attracts attention of all visitors in that locality. The work was completed in May, 1876, and the church was consecrated October 10, 1900.

Much of the best work in the history of Christ church has been accomplished during the rectorship of Mr. Brooks. When he came to Springfield in 1878 an indebtedness of $40,000 was hanging over the parish, but all that debt has been swept away; and more, during his time the parish house has been built at a cost of $15,000; a new organ for the church has cost $5,000; memorial windows in the parish house cost $3,000; the organ in that building cost $1,000; there was paid for Merrick park $5,000, and the erection of St. Peter's church by the mother parish cost $10,000. The present total value of parish property and invested funds aggregates $163,500.

The rectors of the parish, in succession, have been as follows: Edward Rutledge, July, 1821-January 20, 1822; Henry W. Lee (afterward Bishop of Iowa, died 1874), 1838-47; Henry W. Adams, 1848-49; A.N. Littlejohn, D. D. (now Bishop of Long Island), 1850-51; William S. Child, D. D., 1851-59; George H. McKnight, D. D. 1859-69; Alexander Burgess, D. D. (now bishop of Quincy), 1869-78; John Cotton Brooks, December, 1878—the present rector; Rev. James Clement Sharp, rector's assistant.

St. Peter's Church—The mission of St. Peter's parish was organized in the latter part of 1891, under the direction and support of Christ church. The church was organized in 1893, and was placed under the rectorship of Rev. John F. Ballentine. The church edifice was built chiefly by the mother parish, and cost $15,000. St. Peter's now numbers 200 communicants; rector, Rev. John A. Staunton, jr.

UNIVERSALIST

St. Paul's First Church—The society of St. Paul's First Universalist church dates its history from the year 1827, when Edmund Allen, Alexander Stocking, Dudley Brown, Israel Phillips, jr., Ethan A. Clary and Moses Y. Beach were incorporated under the name of the First Independent Universalist society in Springfield. The early meetings were held in the armory chapel and later in Beacon hall at the corner of State and Walnut streets. About 1840, through the efforts of Eliphalet Trask, Thomas W. Wason and others, the society gained added strength and four years later a plain house of worship was built at the corner of Main and Stockbridge streets. The church organization was formally effected by Rev. J. J. Twiss, February 25, 1855. The present handsome edifice at the corner of Chestnut and Bridge streets was erected in 1869. The society now numbers about 250 families, and that notwithstanding the fact that two other societies of the same denomination have recently been organized in the city and have drawn their strength chiefly from the mother church.

The records of St. Paul's are somewhat imperfect, yet from reliable sources it is learned that the ministers and pastors of the church, in succession, have been as follows: Lucius R. Paige, 1834-—; Charles Spear, service unknown; D. J. Mandell, 1842-43; A. A. Folsom, 1844-47; H. P. Ambler, 1849, a few months; J. W. Ford, about two years; J. J. Twiss, 1854-57; Josiah Marvin, 1857-65; H. R. Nye, 1866-71; Oscar F. Safford, 1871-73; Rev. Mr. Seward, a few months; A. H. Sweetser, 1874-77; George W. Perry, 1877-80; J. K. Mason, 1880-85; L. L. Houghton, 1886-88; G. I. Keirn, supply a few months in 1888; Marion Crosley, 1888-94; Charles Conklin, 1894-98; Flint M. Bissell, 1898—the present pastor.

The Second and Third Universalist societies are offshoots from the mother church, and were organized in 1898 under the pastoral care of Rev. Charles Conklin. The neat frame house of worship at the corner of Bay and Princeton streets was built in 1899, and the new church home of the Third society was com-

pleted and dedicated in November, 1901. Both of these churches now are under the charge of Rev. Mr. Conklin.

CATHOLIC

St. Michael's Cathedral—As early as 1830 mass was said at Cabotville, then a part of the town of Springfield, but now Chicopee, where at that time there were three Catholic families. In 1835 Rev. John Brady, of Hartford, said masses in the locality of the Watershops and occasionally in other parts of the town. Father Brady continued his missionary work here about ten years and in that time laid the foundations of the church in what now is the city. In 1840 Rev. George W. Reardon was appointed to the care of Springfield, and about this time land was secured for the purposes of a church building. A few years later additional land was bought, and in 1846 Father Reardon purchased the old Baptist meeting house and caused it to be removed from Mulberry street to Union street, where it was remodeled, repaired and became the first Catholic church in Springfield—St. Benedict's church—dedicated by Bishop Fitzpatrick February 14, 1847.

The Catholic people of Springfield had occupied the Union street building less than fifteen years when there came a demand for more room. The opening of the Western railroad, followed soon afterward by the construction of another road through the valley, with Springfield as a central point of operations, naturally had the effect to bring many Catholics to the town, with result in taxing the capacity of the church building. Father Gallagher, who then was in charge of the parish, enlarged the edifice to a seating capacity of 800, but this answered a temporary purpose only, and in the meantime the worthy priest was casting about in search of a favorable location for a new building. In January, 1860, he made the first purchase at the corner of State and Elliott streets, followed that transaction with several others of like character until he had invested in land the then unusual sum of $34,750 and had acquired a tract 300 feet wide on State street and extending north on Elliott street more than 700 feet. So much of this tract as was necessary for his

The Cathedral, Springfield

purposes Father Gallagher retained and sold the remainder at a good advance above its cost.

On the State street front of this lot in July, 1860, Father Gallagher began the work of building a church edifice. He had planned to build a large parish church, at a cost of about $75,000, but he in fact built a splendid diocesan cathedral, one of the most beautiful edifices of the kind in Western Massachusetts. The finished building was opened for services December 27, 1861, and on September 28, 1867, less than ten years later, the church of St. Michael was consecrated by Rt. Rev. John Williams, Bishop of Boston. In 1870 Springfield was made an episcopal see and on September 25 of that year Rev. P. T. O'Reilly was consecrated first bishop of the new diocese. Then St. Michael's church became St. Michael's cathedral. It is of brick and stone construction, 105 feet wide at the transepts, 175 feet long, with a spire towering 190 feet above the State street level.

Upon the accession of Bishop O'Reilly, Rev. Patrick Healy was appointed vicar-general of the diocese, and Rev. James J. McDermott was called to the rectorship of the cathedral. Bishop O'Reilly died May 28, 1892, and on October 18 following Rev. Thomas D. Beaven, pastor of the Holy Rosary church of Holyoke, was consecrated as his successor.

The pastors of St. Benedict's church (1846-64) were Rev. George Reardon, Rev. John Julius Dougherty and the Rev. Michael P. Gallagher. The succession of pastors of St. Michael's is as follows: Rev. Michael P. Gallagher, 1864-69; Rev. Patrick Healy, 1869-70; Rev. James J. McDermott, 1870-74; Rev. Charles E. Burke, 1874-83; Rev. William Goggin, 1883-86; Rev. Garrett H. Dolan, 1886-88; Rev. B. S. Conaty, 1888-97; Rev. Edward S. Fitzgerald, January 24, 1897—the present pastor. The regularly appointed curates of St. Michael's parish have been Revs. Thomas O'Sullivan, Miles O'Reilly, P. B. Phelan, Charles Burke, William Goggin, Garrett Dolan, William Power, John Fagan, Levi Achim, Edward S. Fitzgerald, John P. McCaughan and Michael A. K. Kelly.

St. Matthew's Church—Mass is said to have been read to the Catholic families in Indian Orchard as early as 1846 by Rev.

Father Reardon, and in 1850 such service is known to have been held by Father Blenkinsop, of Chicopee, in the cloth mill of the old Indian Orchard company; but it is not understood that regular visits to this part of the town were made much earlier than 1864, when Father Healy built St. Matthew's church. For eight years the church was attended from Chicopee, and in 1878 a resident pastor was appointed for the parish in the person of Rev. J. F. Fitzgerald, then curate of the Sacred Heart church. The subsequent pastors have been Rev. John Kenney, nine years, and William J. Power, who began his work here in 1889.

Sacred Heart Church—So rapid was the growth and outspreading of the influence of the Catholic church in the years immediately following the close of the war of 1861-65, that a division of St. Michael's parish became necessary. Upon the death of Father Gallagher, Father Healy took charge of the church and he soon learned the need of a new parish in the north part of the city. Accordingly he purchased a tract of land at the north end, and when Father McDermott was appointed rector of the mother church he increased the area of the tract by the addition of the site of the present school and convent. When the division was accomplished in 1873 Father McDermott, then rector of the cathedral, was given charge of the new parish, and said his masses in the school building on Everett street, which was used as a parish chapel until the completion of the church building in 1896. The school and chapel were dedicated in 1874.

Father McDermott was an earnest and prudent organizer and worker, a thorough believer in education and a worthy pastoral head of a church. He first secured the land, then the school, and the year 1887 found his parish free from debt and a good balance in the treasury. He then began work on the church building. The corner-stone of the handsome brownstone structure was laid October 21, 1888, but the good priest did not live to see the completion of his work, for he died in Paris, July 26, 1891, while travelling in search of health. He was succeeded by Father Smyth, who took up the work of his predecessor with commendable zeal and on October 18, 1896, the finest parish church in New England was dedicated by Bishop Beaven. In

1895 Father Smyth built a chapel in Brightwood where mass has since been said on Sundays and holydays.

The rectorship of the Sacred Heart church has had but two incumbents, Fathers McDermott and Smyth. The curates appointed to this parish are Revs. J. E. Fitzgerald, James J. Boyle, M. J. Howard, J. J. Fallon, Austin O'Grady, Francis J. Reilly, M. J. Griffin, M. J. Tyrrell and M. Z. Boyne.

St. Joseph's Church—After two ineffectual attempts to found a parish for the benefit of the French-Canadians of Springfield, the work was successfully accomplished by Father Louis Gagnier in 1873. He organized the parish and said his first mass on March 9 of that year in the city hall. Then he began the equally arduous task of creating a fund for the purchase of a site and the erection of a church building. The basement of the present St. Joseph's church on Howard street was ready for occupancy in June, 1873, and was used for church services until the completion of the superstructure in 1877. When organized the parish numbered 1,460 persons; now the number is more than 3,300. The large parochial school building was erected in 1897-8 and was dedicated by Bishop Beaven on May 8 of the latter year. The Sisters of the Holy Cross have charge of the school, which is attended by about 400 children.

St. Aloysius' Church—The parish of this church was organized March 3, 1873, for the especial welfare of the many French-Canadian families who then were settled in Indian Orchard and its locality. The Indian Orchard Mills company donated a lot for a church building and the structure was ready for occupancy on Christmas day, 1873, when the first pastor, Rev. Louis Gagnier, said mass. During Father Boudouin's pastorate the convent building was erected as a cost of $10,000. St. Aloysius' parish numbers about 2,500 Catholics. The rectors have been as follows: Rev. Louis Gagnier, 1873-76; Rev. H. Landry, 1876-86; Rev. Charles Crevier, 1886-90; Rev. Clovius Boudouin, 1890-1897; Rev. J. E. Marcoux, 1897-1901; Rev. Edmund Graton, the present rector.

EVANGELICAL

Memorial Church—On the silver plate deposited under the corner-stone of the Memorial church is this inscription: "From love to God and good-will to man, a company of believers, who profess faith in Christ, the Saviour of mankind, by the aid of the Churches of Springfield, and other friends of the enterprise, build this house of worship for the Memorial Church."

"This Church, constituted by the fellowship of Christians of different denominations, was organized October 29, 1865, and named the 'Memorial Church' in memory of the deceased ministers of Christ in New England."

The Memorial church has been one of the institutions of Springfield for more than thirty-five years, yet there are many persons in the community who do not understand its origin, character and purpose. As has been stated, the church was organized in October, 1865, and was recognized by an ecclesiastical council of the neighboring churches. For the information of all who seek to learn something of the character and quality of the church the following declaration of the founders will be found of interest:

"Believing that the interests of religion require the formation of a Church in Ward One, we, a company of believers who profess faith in Christ and acknowledge Him to be the Saviour of mankind, to effect this purpose, in connection with the Society which has been formed to build a house of worship in said ward, do hereby organize ourselves into a Church of Christ."

"In love to the memory of the deceased ministers of New England, this Church shall be called the Memorial Church."

"Love to God and good will to men shall be our bond of union."

"This Church shall be Congregational in its form of government and discipline, in accordance with the legal interests of the Society with which it is connected. It will seek the relations of Christian fellowship with other evangelical churches, by the mutual transfer of members, by ministerial exchanges, by sacramental communion, by mutual councils, and by all suitable modes of co-operation."

On the first anniversary of the organization of the church, Oct. 29, 1866, these resolutions were adopted:

"Believing that an organized company of believers in Jesus Christ, and who acknowledge Him to be the Saviour of mankind, form and constitute a Christian Church; that a Congregational Church is one which vests all ecclesiastical power in a company thus organized, and that the Holy Catholic Church is the universal Christian brotherhood; therefore,

"Resolved, That the Memorial Church of Springfield, having declared in its creed its belief in the Holy Catholic Church, welcomes to its membership and communion all who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth, and who agree with it concerning the essential doctrines of the Christian religion, by whatever name they may be called."

"That the success of the Church upon this basis during the first year of its history—a success which has brought at least five denominations into happy communion of personal feeling and action—is our sufficient justification for reaffirming this basis as a ground of Christian liberality, a guide to a wise and sound policy, and especially as the true basis for organized Christian effort in the ward in which our church is located."

On the second anniversary, Oct. 27, 1867, this declaration was made by the church:

"Whereas, the Memorial Church, in its plan of organization, declares that it will seek the relations of Christian fellowship with other evangelical churches by the mutual transfer of members, etc.,

"Resolved, That in its action in pursuance of these principles, it does not intend to merge itself in any denominational organization."

Throughout the period of its history the Memorial church has been governed in accordance with the declarations of its founders, and during that same period also it has become recognized as one of the leading influential religious bodies in New England. The church property is conveniently and delightfully located at the southern slope of Round hill, and the edifice is one of the most attractive structures of its kind in the region. It was

completed and opened for worship in March, 1869, and cost $100,000, all of which sum was paid long ago. In November, 1888, and again in January, 1889, the pastor called attention to the great need of a parish house in connection with the constantly increasing work of the church. Soon after this George M. Atwater, one of the founders of the church, contributed $5,000 toward the parish house fund, and on the very same day John H. Southworth donated an equal sum for the same purpose. In January, 1891, Mrs. Catherine H. Lombard sent the pastor a check for $5,000 in aid of the enterprise, and later on in the year Harriet B. Hitchcock gave the land for the building, in memory of her father, Daniel Hitchcock. Other substantial contributions to the fund were made, and on April 17, 1895, the splendid parish house on North Main street was dedicated, free of debt. The entire expense of its construction, exclusive of the land, was about $37,000.

During the period of its history the Memorial church has had one minister and two pastors. Rev. Mark Trafton, D. D., supplied the pulpit for one year from April 1, 1867. Rev. William T. Eustis, D. D., the first pastor, was installed June 3, 1869, and died in office March 30, 1888. Rev. John L. R. Trask, D. D., the second and present pastor, began his ministry here October 1, 1888, and was installed pastor December 13 of that year.

OTHER CHURCHES

First Presbyterian Church—This church dates its history from 1895, when about a dozen Scotch Presbyterians and about 40 former members of the Park Congregational church organized a society and church according to the Presbyterian form of government and worship. From an original membership of 55 the number is now increased to 170 persons. The house of worship is located at the corner of State street and Concord terrace. The first pastor was Rev. William Hart Dexter, who was succeeded in January, 1899, by Rev. Stanley G. Tyndall, the present pastor.

Among the other and perhaps more recently organized church societies of the city mention may be made of the German

Evangelical Lutheran church, organized in 1889, with a house of worship located on King street, near Walnut street; the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Bethesda church, organized in 1891 and incorporated in 1892, the house of worship being on Union street, near Main street; the Church of Christ (Disciples), organized in 1895, and having a church home on South Main street; the Church of the New Jerusalem (Second Advent), which dates its history from the year 1853; the Advent Christian church, and also the Seventh Day Advent society, both among the recently organized religious societies of the city; and the Jewish synagogue, at No. 24 Gray's avenue.

CHAPTER VIII

THE TOWN OF WESTFIELD

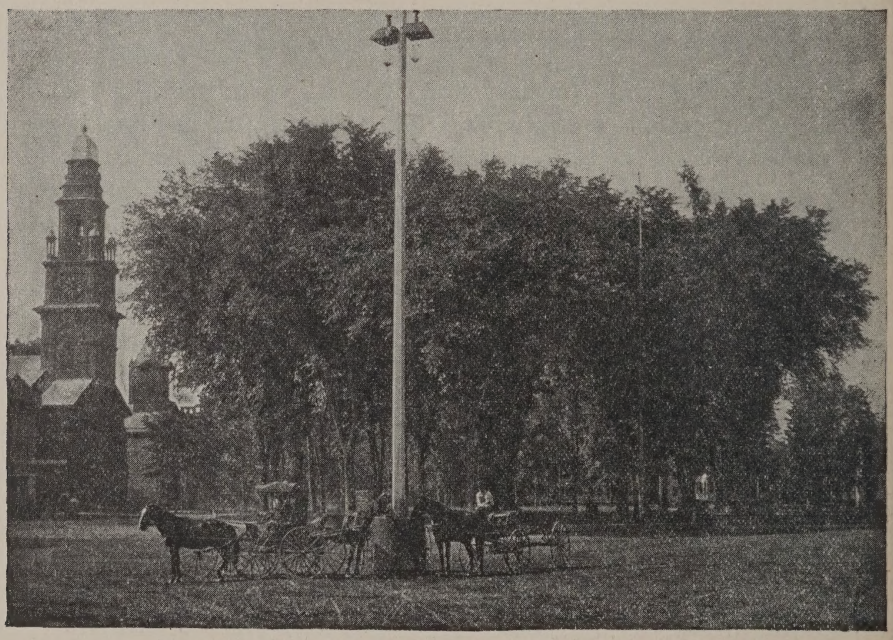
BY JAMES CARRUTHERS GREENOUGH, LL. D.

Introductory.—One school of historians would teach us that the evolution of a community is determined by man,—that the ultimate source of history is the human will; another school would teach us that the physical environment of a community determines its history. Each school teaches a partial truth. While we must admit that the history of our town has been determined mainly by the personal qualities of its citizens, we may not pass unnoticed their physical environment.

Physiography.—The central part of the township is an alluvial valley extending six or seven miles from east to west. It is from two to three miles in width. The steep banks or bluffs bordering this valley and separating it from the surrounding plains are generally about seventy feet in height. From the brow of these banks, the widely spread dwellings, embowered in elms and maples, the steeples of the churches rising above the trees, the broad meadows divided by the wandering streams, the background of western hills and the serrated range on the east, present a scene beautiful and picturesque. There is a tradition that this valley was once so walled by the Holyoke range on the east that it was the bed of a lake, and that by the giving way of this range at the place of the outlet, or by gradual erosion the lake was drained; but geological facts do not substantiate this theory.

Geologists tell us that in the remote past, a bay or estuary several miles in width extended north from the ocean across what is now Connecticut and Massachusetts in the direction now marked by the Connecticut river. Material brought into this bay

from the north and from the Appalachian elevations on the west, helped to fill it. The Westfield river seems to have furnished its contribution so long as it discharged its waters into this bay. Later, the northern part of the continent as far south as the fortieth parallel of latitude was covered with glaciers, moving from north to south. That the channel of the Westfield river among the western highlands existed previous to the glacial period, is asserted by geologists, who find that the large glacier moving



Park Square, Westfield, in Summer

south along what is now the Connecticut valley, sent a lateral branch westerly some distance into the channel of the Westfield river.

As the huge mass of the glacier moved in a southerly direction it wore away the red sandstone underlying it, in Massachusetts, comminuted it to be borne by the glacial streams and deposited in beds now hard and compact and known as the Port-

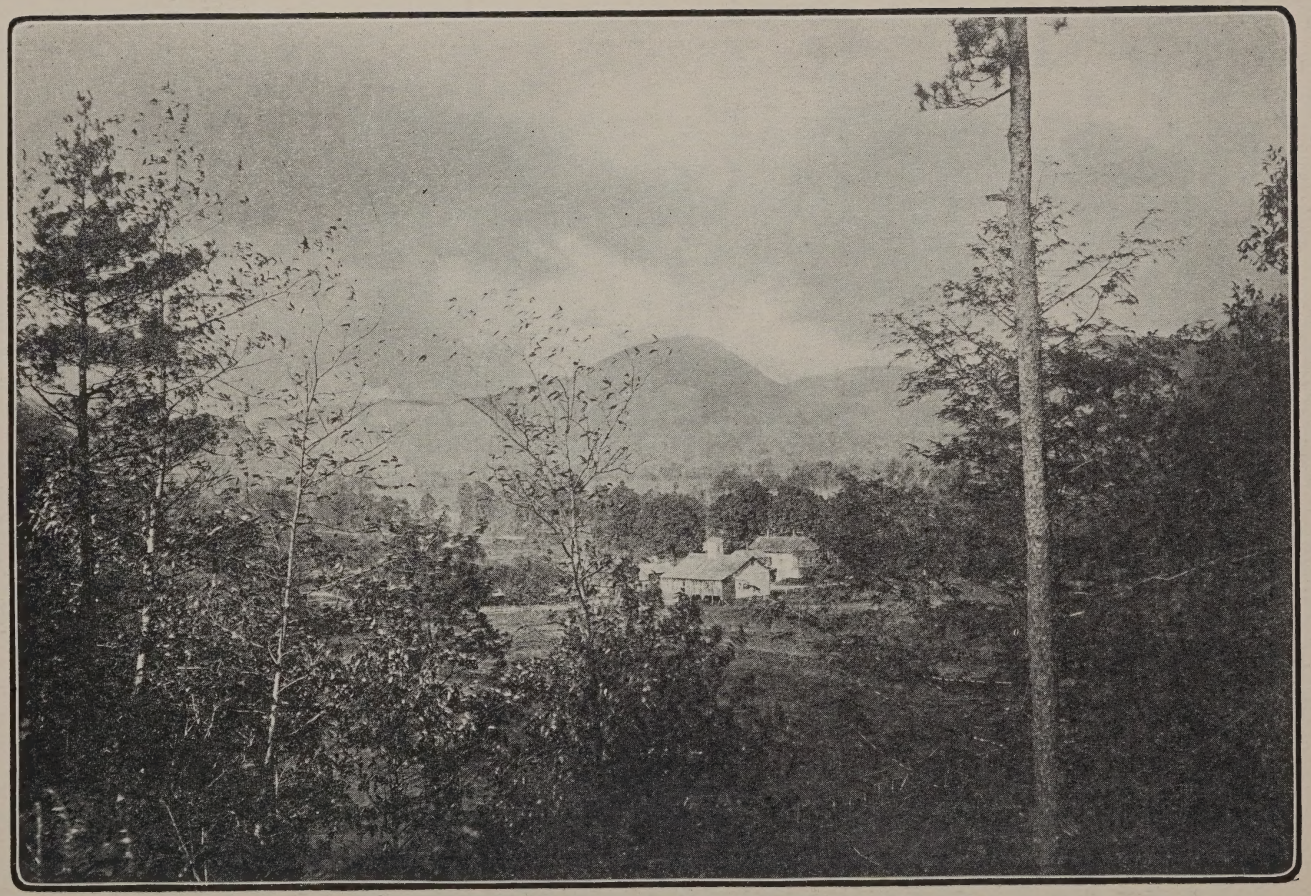
land red sandstone of Connecticut, so generally used in buildings throughout the valley. Other results than the abrasion of the red sandstone are to-day evident in the broad plains which border the alluvial portion of the valley and which are composed of sands, clays and pebbles belonging to drift. The hard trap rock of the Holyoke range and of other elevations, could not, like sandstone, be easily worn away; hence it now stands boldly above the plains.

So long as the Westfield river, as it emerged from its channel among the western hills, met the waters of the estuary or mingled with the underflowing waters of the glacier, contributing its silt to the upbuilding of the valley, its water would take a southerly course from the present site of Westfield to the sea. The Connecticut and its tributaries have cut out of the plains formed by glacial action, the alluvial basins.

The present easterly course of the Westfield river through the towns of Westfield and West Springfield, may have been owing to a considerable depression or opening in Holyoke range that runs north and south near the dividing line of these towns, or to terminal moraines deposited by the receding glacier not farther south than the town of Southwick.

It will be admitted that one of the many shallow lakes that the glaciers, as they melted, left in New England, may have rested, though at a much higher level, where the village of Westfield now stands, but that the present alluvial valley was the bed of a lake no geologist can admit.

Whatever may have determined the easterly course of the river across the glacial plain, there is no reasonable doubt that the long alluvial valley, that now forms so large a part of the township of Westfield, is the work of the Westfield river and its tributary, Little river. One evidence that this valley was formed by the erosion of these streams is the fact that it is a terraced valley such as rivers are now making wherever they are flowing through a yielding soil, and in beds that are gradually finding a lower level. The more sinuous the course of a stream the greater the lateral erosion. As a river erodes its concave banks it deposits on its convex banks, forming alluvial flats at length raised



Farm Scene in Westfield River Valley

Mt. Tekoa in the distance

as high as the flood waters build. When a river is continually deepening its channel, it is evident that the alluvial flats last formed will be at a lower level than those formed at an earlier period. The result is a terraced valley.

Another evidence that the rivers now flowing in this valley have made it, is the fact that by digging down a few feet in any part of it, one will come upon the rounded stones and pebbles of an old river bed. The way in which the rivers widen the valley is evident to any one who will observe how Little river is cutting away the bordering bluff, below the railroad bridge which crosses this river.

Before the coming of the white man, the alluvial soil of this valley, cleared every spring by fires set by the Indians, was adapted to produce an abundance of maise, grass and other crops. The streams abounded with fish. The time is not far remote when shad and salmon were plenty in these streams. Their smooth surfaces were often rippled by the scurrying water fowl and along their banks the otter, the mink, the beaver, and other fur-bearing animals made their homes. The forests that covered what are now for the most part plains, to the north and to the south, and the hills on the west, furnished attractive and profitable hunting grounds.

The bordering bluffs near the open fields of the valley above the reach of the occasional floods, we can readily imagine, were favorite camping grounds of the Indians. It is not strange that they called the region Wauwunockoo, which is said to mean, "it is fat hunting." This name like other Indian names took various forms in the records ere the permanent form Woronoco was evolved. From this Woronoco valley, radiated the Indian trails as now radiate the highways from the town along the banks of the streams to the mountain valleys on the west, toward the Connecticut on the east, and across the then wooded plains that stretched away to the north and to the south. The routes of many of the colonial roads were first surveyed by the Indians in locating their trails. They little dreamed of the busy highways and the iron tracks that were to follow the courses they had marked.

BEGINNING OF SETTLEMENT

The first white men who made a temporary abode in this region seem to have been attracted by the opportunities to trade with the Indians for beaver skins and other furs. It is impossible to trace the routes, to locate the stopping places, or to determine the times of these early pioneers.

Controversy with Connecticut.—In 1641, as shown by the Colonial records, the general court of Massachusetts, finding that the people of Connecticut had encroached upon the domain of the Massachusetts Bay, wrote them as follows:

"It is greivos to us to meete with any occation that might cause difference to arise betweene yor people & us, standing in so near relation of friendship, neighborhood & Christianity, especially; therefore or study is (when any such arise) to labor the removing of them upon the first appearance. Now, so it is, that we have been certified that you have given leave to some of yors to set up a trading house at Woronock, wch is knowne to bee wthin or patent, lying as much or more to the north than Springfield. Wee heare also, that you have granted to Mr. Rob't Saltonstall a great quantity of land, not far beneath Springfield, wch wee apphend to bee an injury to us, & do us such right in redresse hearof as you would expect fro us in a like case. Wee suppose wee shall not need to use other argumts; wee know to whom wee wright. Wee have thought meete upon these occations to intimate further unto you that wee intend (by God's help) to know the certeinty of or limits, to the end that wee may neither intrench upon the right of any of or neighbors, nor suffer orselves & or posterity to bee deprived of what rightly belongeth unto us, wch wee hope wilbe wthout offence to any; & upon this wee may have some ground pceeding in or further treaty wth you about such things as may concerne the welfare of us all. These things wee leave to yor consideration, & shall expect yor answear. In the meane time wee rest."

The immediate occasion of this letter was the fact that Governor Hopkins of Hartford had obtained a grant of land, and, in 1640, had established a trading house at "Woronock."

Saybrook Fort.—At a still earlier period the people of Connecticut claimed a certain jurisdiction over Springfield, even, as well as the territory lying west. In 1635, John Winthrop, son of Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts, came from England having a commission from Lord Say and Lord Brook appointing him governor in Connecticut. Two thousand dollars were given him for the purpose of erecting a fort at the mouth of the Connecticut river. He built the fort and named it Saybrook fort, fitting it up with an armament he brought with him from England.

Not unlike a mediaeval baron who built his castle on a rocky battlement overlooking a highway leading through a mountain pass and levied toll under the excuse of protecting those who passed by, so all vessels passing up the river were now required to pay toll. Settlers from Massachusetts Bay in Windsor, Wethersfield and Hartford to avoid a contest paid the toll. Springfield refused to pay. Hence arose the most serious controversy that ever occurred between the two colonies. The general court of Massachusetts when appealed to for protection responded stoutly in defence of Springfield. In 1644, when the Connecticut settlements bought the fort, they included in the purchase all claims against Springfield for unpaid tolls. When these claims were urged upon the attention of the commissioners of the united colonies their decision was long deferred until the commissioners from Massachusetts refusing to act, the others decided in favor of the claimants; but Springfield stubbornly refused payment. Massachusetts, siding strongly with Springfield, retaliated by attempting to levy toll upon all vessels of other colonies entering the harbor of Boston. The colonies would not endure this, and to prevent the breaking up of the union of the colonies, the measure was withdrawn. The claims of Connecticut for tolls still remain unpaid.

The boundaries of Springfield were from time to time so extended as to include a good share if not all of the territory afterwards known as Westfield, and that of several other towns. In 1647, the general court issued the following order:

"It is ordered by this Court, that Woronoko upon Connecticut River wthin ys jurisdiction, shall be, and be reputed as a

part of ye towne of Springfield, & liable to all charges there as other pts of the same toune; vntill erecting some other plantation more convenient, it shall be thought fitt by ye Court to annex it to such new plantation.''

Holland tells us that ''at the May court, 1662, certain gentlemen who appear to have belonged in Windsor and Dorchester, presented a petition, representing themselves to be much in want of land, and asking for a tract six miles square at Woronoco, to be joined with the farms of 'the late much honored Maj.-Gen. Atherton and Capt. Roger Clapp of Dorchester,' to whom it appears grants had previously been made by the court. The petition was signed by fifteen individuals. The deputies voted to grant the petition, and decreed that the farms alluded to should belong to the plantation, in respect to public charges, and that 'the order for Woronoco henceforth to lie to Springfield should be void;' provided the petitioners should settle themselves and a minister within three years; otherwise the land was to belong to Springfield until a plantation should be settled there. . . . But this scheme seems to have entirely miscarried, as no considerable settlement occurred there until 1666, and among those who held titles confirmed by a residence of five years, thereafter, the name of but one of the petitioners can be found, viz., George Phelps, who emigrated from Windsor. The first settlers were from Springfield, Windsor, and Northampton.''

First Settlers.—Ensign Thomas Cooper seems in 1658 to have received the first grant of land in Woronoco from the town of Springfield. It was located ''on the northeast side of Worronoke River, to wit., betwixt the brook called Tomhammucke and the river called Worrinoke River, from the mouth of the said River Tomhammucke, and soe up, soe high towards Pochasuck as until he cometh to the hill Wasapskotuck.'' This grant included, it would seem, most of the alluvial lands on the north side of the Westfield and extended from Brass or Prospect hill on the west to the stream flowing from Springdale mills on the east. Across the east part of this tract, after 1664, passed the road from Northampton to Windsor.

In 1660, March 13, ''There is granted to Samuel Chapin a piece of land at Woronoco, being between twenty and thirty

acres 'lying on the east side of the second brook, that is on this side of Thomas Cooper's farm there and is to be bounded by the hill on the north and the river on the south, provided those lands shall be considered by the court to belong to this town and he purchase the said land of the Indians, and he is not to hinder passage through it to other lands beyond it.' "

This grant from Springfield recognized, as did other original grants, the ownership of the Indians. Those to whom lands were originally granted, were to purchase them of the Indians, in order to obtain a complete title.

Judging from the records and traditions, Walter Lee, John Sackett, and George Saxton were the first permanent settlers on the north side of the Westfield river. The site of Mr. Sackett's house is still shown. He is believed to have been the ancestor of those of the name who have since resided in Westfield. Benjamin, the son of George Saxton, who lived for a time on the part of the Northampton and Windsor road running from the present road from Westfield to Springfield, to the hamlet, Little river, was the first child born among the settlers of Westfield. He was born in 1666 and was among the first to give proof by his life in Westfield that it is a place favorable to longevity. He died at the age of eighty-eight.

As the old Indian fort was said to have stood on the south side of the Westfield river near its confluence with Little river, the area between the rivers was called the fort side. This name may have been perpetuated because part of the area was fortified after a time by palisades. The land lying north of the Westfield river was called the north side and that south of the river but east of Little river, the south side.

Forests and Glades.—We should be glad to have some photographic views of the lands on the Westfield river, as they were before they were occupied by white men, but no man used a camera in those days. The best lands were annually cleared by the Indians in many places by kindling fires in November that consumed leaves, underbrush and dead limbs on the ground. A Mr. Graves, writing in 1629, says, the country "is very beautiful in open lands mixed with goodly woods and again open plains, in

some places 500 acres, some more, some less, not much troublesome to clear for the plough." "The grass and weeds grow up to a man's face; in the low lands and by fresh rivers abundance of grass and large meadows without any tree or shrub."

There was plenty of land ready for the plow. The fires of the Indians had swept widely. The uplands bordering the lowlands were often thinly covered with trees, and the dense forests beyond the reach of the meadow fires were generally free from underbrush, so that hunters and companies of soldiers mounted or on foot easily penetrated the forests in all directions. Owing to the annual burnings good timber in some of the river towns was not as plenty as has been supposed. Westfield was better provided than Springfield. The western hills were nearer. Springfield voted in 1647 "that no timber, boards, planks, shingle-timber, nor pipe-staves should be carried out of the town from the east side of the river."

Woronoco Committee.—At a town meeting held at Springfield, Feb. 7. 1664, Capt. John Pynchon, Nathaniel Ely, George Colton, Benjamin Cooley and Elizur Holyoke were chosen to be a standing committee "to have the sole power to order matters concerning the lands in Woronoco and for admittance of inhabitants for that place and for granting of lands there or any other affairs that concern that place, and that may conduce to the settling the said towne. This committee to hold till the town see cause otherwise to order."

This committee soon made grants to Capt. Aron Cooke, Thomas Day, John Ingersoll, Joseph Leeds, Moses Cooke, John Osborne, John Holyoke, David Ashley, Thomas Noble, Sergeant Stebbins, Samuel Mansfield, John Ponder, John Root, Benjamin Cooley, Hugh Dudley, and Thomas Orton.

Jan. 9, 1667, the committee declared the lands of certain grantees "forfeited fully, unless they begin the work of settlers in fencing, etc." "It is ordered that Capt. Cooke, Thos. Dewey, John Williams, John Sacket, John Ponder, David Ashley and Mr. Cornish shall view the land to be fenced, and determine where the fence shall be set, what quantity there is, and where each man's portion shall be, and this work to be attended to forthwith."

"It is further ordered that all such as have lands granted at Woronoak shall meet there on Tuesday fortnight next, if the weather will allow, or the next fayre and fit day, to consider and agree about fencing and other matters of concernment, and if due notice to the persons concerned (that are now absent) then such as shall come may act and determine what tends to the speedy carrying on of the fencing and other necessary affairs."

At a meeting of the committee for Woronoco, March 2, 1667, Thomas Noble, David Ashley and John Root made request that their home lots westerly from the Indian fort, may be each two rods broader for convenience in setting their fence, the ground of the present line being wet. At the same meeting George Fyler makes request for a home lot "on that side of the river by the Indian fort."

Certain lands "on the north side of Woronoak river above the cellars" were granted. Also certain other lands were granted "on the south side of the river not yet disposed of, to Ambrose Fowler, George Saxton and Jonathan Alvord."

Among the various orders of the committee, March 13, 1667, is the order that the "gate by (John) Sacket's be well hung for the security of the field by the 25th of this inst. March and after yt time who ever shall leave open or not shut the gate shall pay 5s to the use of the proprietors."

This gate it is thought was a little east and south of the site of the Springdale mills, probably where the road from Northampton to Windsor entered the common field. This road held its southerly course to the river, where there was a ford called in some of the old documents the "neck riding." The road then continued easterly along the south bank of the Westfield river, until it approached the present site of the county bridge; then it took the present course of the road running southerly from the bridge to the hamlet now known as Little river. Somewhere across this road, perhaps where the road left the common field as it proceeded to the south, another gate was hung. This was to be closed by those passing, under the same penalty, "for the security of the corn field."

Division of Lands.—While a considerable tract was held as

a common field it was found desirable to allot a home lot to each householder. Later the common field was divided.

"At a meeting of the proprietors of land of Woronoak on the ffort side March the 13th, 1668, for laying out the proportions of land on the ffort side."

"All the proprietors unanimously agree that for the most equall disbursing and dividing their generall portions of land, the land to be now laid out shall be divided into three parts, one part of it next to the ffort river shall be accounted or goe in lieu of meadow, where every man shall have his share, only Serg. Stebbins, Thos. Bancroft, & that whereas William Brooke's allotment are to have their shares (viz.) three acres (not these but) against their home lotts in the low land there, which is instead thereof, this for the first part or division of land which is accounted the meadow division.

"Nextly the plowland is to lye in two divisions and every man to have his proportion in each Division of the plow land. And for the laying of men's land, that is the place where each man's portion of land shall lye, it is agreed that it be demined by casting lotts for it, every proprietor agreeing to acquiesce in that place where his lott shall fall. And for the beginning of the first division of plowland, it shall be at the lowermost or southeasterly side, there the first lot is to lye, & from thence to goe upward or Westerly.

"The first lott came out to Thomas Gunn, who lyes next the river on the easterly syde of all the other lotts where he hath seventeen acres, length 160 rod, breadth 10 rods at the front and 24 rods at ye west and besides this there is 2 rods broad allowed more to this lott for a high way downe to the river all the length of it."

Then follows the description of the lots laid out (1) from the meadow land (2) from the first division of the plowland and (3) from the second division of the plowland. The names of the parties to whom these three divisions were severally apportioned by lot are:

14 No. 7	Order of lot	Meadow Division	Order of lot	First plowland division beginning lowermost and going upwards	Order of lot	Second plowland division from lower end running upwards
Thomas Gunn	(1)	17 acres	(6)	6 acres	(5)	9 acres
David Ashley	(2)	11 "	(3)	4 "	(3)	5 "
John Ponders	(3)	11 "	(1)	4 "	(12)	3 "
Sergeant Stebbins	(4)	13 "	*	*	(7)	7 "
Joseph Whiting	(5)	16 "	(5)	6 "	†	†
William Brookes	(6)	10 "	*	*	(10)	5 "
Thomas Bancroft	(7)	11 "	*	*	(4)	6 "
Hugh Dudley	(8)	6 "	(2)	2 "	(1)	4 "
Isaac Phelps	(9)	10 "	(10)	3 "	(8)	5 "
George Phelps	(10)	26 "	(8)	8 "	(6)	14 "
Thomas Root	(11)	8 "	(9)	3 "	(2)	5 "
John Root	(12)	11 "	(7)	4 "	(11)	6 "
Thomas Noble	(13)	13 "	(4)	4 "	(9)	6 "

The term "Hundred Acres" was applied to the lowlands south of Little river, between the Southwick road and the railroad running south from Westfield.

"An account of the land called the hundred acres":

Joseph Whiting .....16 acres
Thomas Root ..... 7 acres
Thomas Stebbins ..... 3 acres
Israel Dewey ..... 6 acres
Isaac Phelps.....6 acres
George Phelps.....16 acres
Hugh Dudley ..... 5 acres
John Ponder ..... 7 acres
Thomas Gunn .....10 acres
David Ashley ..... 7 acres
John Root ..... 7 acres
Thomas Noble ..... 7 acres

"18th Feb. 1668. Grants of land made by the town. John Sacket hath liberty to lay downe the five acres of boggy meadow

*No allotment in this division, having received allotment adjoining home lots.

†"Mr. Whiting's lot is wanting, the land not holding out any more in this place, and so he must have it some other where, which he chooseth in the 'Hundred Acres,' that parcell which remayns above the Rootes lot."

and to take up five acres on that side of the river elsewhere so that it be not to the detriment of former grants."

19th March

1669. Sackett's creek is granted to Mr. Whiting & David Ashley, to set a mill theron to grind and also the land about the creek is granted them for a pasture. More granted them for encouragemt an hundred acres of land & liberty to choose it in two places."

TOWN ORGANIZATION

At a meeting at Woronoco the 21st of Jan., 1668, it was "voted that James Cornish, George Phelps, Thomas Dewey, and Tho. Noble shall goe to Springfield the first Tuesday in February next at a towne meeting, to propound to the town for the settlement of our place and affayres, in particular to determine where the lyne shall run betwixt Springfield and us and to appoynt persons to lay out the bounds granted us by the Honor'd Genll Court and to allow us to be a township of ourselves and signify the same to the honored Genll Court etc."

Springfield we find acquiesced in the wishes of the proprietors, so that later in the year, on the 11th of August, the settlers voted unanimously "that we will look out for a minister to carry on the work of God in this place." The record of this meeting is dated Streamfield, apparently the name first chosen by the settlers as they were about to organize the town.

The preliminary order of the town of Springfield was as follows:

"Springfeild, Att a Towne meeting ffeb. 2d, 1668. Uppon ye Motion of ye Inhabitants at Worronoco This Town being willing to prmote & further their desire of being a Township of Themselves, (amongst other graunts to them did &c) Doe leave the Inhabitants there to themselves to mannage their own matters, or as to Honnord Genle Corte shall further Order: And we hope the Corte will see cause to Order them to be a Township & that they through the favor of God may grow up into a comfortable society, & bee a happy Neighbourhood to Us & Our ffriends & Theires.

"This is a true Coppy of the Town Ordr vizt., soe much of it as is concerning the releasing of Woronoco from Springfeild.

"Taken out of ye Town Records

"By mee ELIZUR HOLYOKE *Recorder.*"

(B. 112, P. 193.)

The action of the general court was as follows:

"There being a motion made to this Court in ye behalfe of ye Inhabitants at Woronoake belonging to Springfield, That they may be a Township of ymselves: Springfeild being willing theretoe as appeares by Coppy of an order of that Towne under their Recorders hand heretoe anexed. Leaving Woronoak to ymselves & referring ym to this Court: This Court (therefore) Doth hereby Grant them to be a Township, & allows them all Priviledges according as other Townes have in this Collony, And that ye Sd Towne be caller Westfeild:

"The magists have past this their brethren the Deputys hereto consenting.

28 May 1669. EDWARD RAWSON, *Secty.*

Consented to by the Deputyes,

(B. 112, P. 193.) WILLIAM TORREY *Cleric.*"

The boundaries of the township as determined by a committee of the town of Springfield acting under the authority of the general court is as follows:

SPRINGFEILD, April 14th 1670.

Wee whose names are here subscribed being a Comittee appoynted by the Town of Springfeild for ye laying out of the quantityof Six miles Square graunted to Westfeild by the Honnord Genll Corte have attended the said Work and therefore doe hereby declare how Their said quantity of land shall lye, that is to say the said quantity of land is laid out to them five mile broad at ye Northerly end thereof extending from a pine tree marked at ye East Mountayne to a white oake marked at ye West Mountayne, & it runneth in length Southerly Nine Mile that is to say from the said Pine tree holding the course of the South South West poynt uppon ye Meridian compass: And at the Southerly end of their Nine Mile their limitts are ffoure miles broad Westward: And the Ledge of Mountaynes is to be the bounds between

Springfeild & Westfeild: wthin this tract of land their is conteyned the quantity of about three Square miles of land granted before by Springfeild to Westfeild, & about the quantity of Two square miles in reference to the farmes of the Worthy Major Atherton deceased & Capt. Clapp.

ELIZUR HOLYOKE — GEORGE COULTON
SAMUELL MARSHFEILD — ROWLAND THOMAS.

———

The Deputyes approve of this returne sd Honor'd magists Consenting thereto.

WILLIAM TORREY *Cleric.*

The Magists Consent hereto.

EDW. RAWSON *Secrety.*

[Massachusetts Archives, vol. 112, page 201.]

The general court required that Indians occupying land should be paid for the same in order that settlers might secure a complete title. We subjoin a copy of the deed by which the Indians made a transfer of a large tract of land lying between "Little and Great rivers." This deed was certified June 30, 1669, and regarded, we believe, as just and as necessary a part of the conditions of possession, as the action of the general court or the action of the town of Springfield.

These presants testifi That Alquat the Indian Sachem of waranoake and pochasuck for & in consideration of the sum of forty Pounds in english act being so much sterling to him in hand before ye sealing & Delivery hear of well & truly Payed by ye Capt John Pynchon of Springfield for & in behalf of Capt Aron Cook, Mr James Cornish Mr Joseph Whiting Geo Phelps Tho Noble David Ashley John Roote & other ye Inhabitants of warranoake alais Westfield. The Recipt whare of the sd Alquat Doth Acknolidg by these presents and tharewith to be fully satisfyed & contented hath Given Granted Bargained & sold & by these presents Doth fully & clearlly and absolutely Give grant Bargain & sell unto Capt Aron Cooke Mr James Cornish Mr Joseph Whiting George Phelps Tho Noble David Ashley John Roote of Westfield alias waranoake aforsad For themselves and ye Present Inhabitants of ye aforsad Place or Plantation and theire

successors & assignes from time to time & unto their hires For ever according as theire severall Proportions or Divisions shall be laid out & proportioned to them. A certain Parcel or tract of Land Meddo & wood Land lying & being at waranoake aforesad on ye south side of woranoake River ye greate River & on ye North or northerly side of ye Little River or Foart River adjoining on ye southeast, East and North east on Land formerly Purched by Saml Marshfield of Springfield for the Inhabitants of Westfield aforesaid and on ye south and souwest on ye Little River affoar named comonly called the fort River on ye North or Northerly it is bounded by ye greate River called woranoak River & so Running up waranoak river to ye falls near about a mile above ye present Housen to a marked tree thare and from that marked tree it runs off westerly or souwesterly upon a straight line to the Little River or fort River to a stone at ye Nooke or Poynt whare all ye good land ends & whare going up ye hill the pine plaine begins the sd common or Pine Plain being ye westerly or Northwesterly bounds of this tract of Land ye line of Division being run by several English going a long with ye Indian from ye fawls in the greate River over to that stone afore named which is on the top of the hill by the Little River whare the Pine plaine begins To have and to hold all ye Parcel or tract of Land before mentioned containing severall Hundrid acres with all ye profits and apurtinances thareupon or thareunto belonging to the sd Capt Cooke James Cornish Joseph Whiting Geo Phelps Tho Noble David Ashley and John Roote for ye Inhabitnts of Westfield aforsd according as Division thareof shall be made to them & their hires & assignees for ever only Reserving & Exemting oute of ye presant sale seven acres of Meddo Land for Wollump, son of sd Alquat, which seven acres resarved and exemted Lyes in a nooke by ye Little River & against land now Divided and Proportioned to Mr Joseph Whiting & is to be at the soul dispose of the sd Alquat & Wollump all so Reserving Liberty for Indians to fish & take foull and ye sd Alquat Doth covenant and premise to and with ye sd Capt Cooke James Cornish Mr Joseph Whiting Geo Phelps Tho Noble David Ashley & John Root that he will save them harmles from all manner of claim of any per-

son or persons Lawfully claiming any right title or intrest in the premises otherwise than ye Reserve or exemption of ye seven acres aforesd for Wollump In witness whereof the sd Alquat hath hearunto affixed his hand and seall this 30th day of June 1669.

Subscribed sealed & Delivered in ye presence of Samuel Marshfield, William Brooks Timothy Cooper John Watson.

the mark of Indian witnesses

Wollump, his mark ——

Wollamunt, his mark †

The mark of Al 8 quat.

Alquat ye indian Sachem acknowledge this instrument to be his act and deed this present 30th of June, 1669 before mee John Pynchon of Springfield.

Attested by me Isaac Phelps,

Town Clerk.

(A true copy of ye original deed.)

The First Town Center.—Near the confluence of Little and Westfield rivers was the central hamlet of the first settlers. There they built their first meeting-house, probably of logs, thirty-six feet square with fourteen feet posts. Those who had settled, some two miles farther east in the hamlet now known as Little river, hoped, we are told, to have the building in their neighborhood. Those who had settled on the north side of the Westfield river had like aspirations. The "fort side" was the most central.

The wearing waters of the rivers, in spring time using ice for tools,

"Mining the soil for ages,"

have cut away much of the meadow terrace upon which the houses near the church were built, yet a part of the site of the first meeting house, selected in January, 1668, remains.

The triangular plot thus occupied by houses and home lots, bounded on two sides by streams, was more easily defended than forest-bordered fields. Down the streams the settlers could float the logs needed for their rude buildings. On these streams also, before jealousies had hindered intercourse, came and went the canoes of their swarthy neighbors with whom they traded. In

the winter the ice furnished convenient highways reaching far into the forest. At all seasons the waters, abounding in fish, were a storehouse of food. Nature seems to have designated this as a suitable place for the settler's home. According to tradition the Indians once had a fort here.

Defenses against the Indians.—One or more houses were built as forts by the settlers and during the often recurring Indian wars several were forted, i. e., the walls were made bullet-proof, ammunition and provisions were stored, and measures taken to extinguish fire in case the houses were set on fire by an enemy. Some of these forted houses were surrounded by palisades. These palisades were made by splitting sections of the trunks of trees of moderate size in halves and so straightening and scoring the edges, that when they were set in the ground edge to edge they would form a continuous wall or closed fence, not less than two inches thick and eight or more feet high. The tops of the palisades were pointed. The palisades enclosing the central hamlet of Westfield are said at one time, during King Philip's and other Indian wars, to have been about two miles in circuit. If one would trace the position of this wooden wall or fence, as it was at the close of Philip's war, let him leave Main street at its junction with Meadow street, and facing the east, turn to the left, follow the brow of the meadow terrace around behind the Moseley house in its sinuous course till he reaches the bank of Westfield river, thence along the bank of the river nearly or quite to the mouth of Little river, then along its bank until the brook that crosses Noble street is reached, then westerly along by this brook, at length turning from it by a curve to the north to reach our point of departure.

It is evident if the course of the palisades has been correctly outlined, that between the Moseley house and the bridge over Little river, palisades once stood opposite to the entrance of Noble street close upon what is now Main street. The western gate of the enclosed area was not far from the west side of Meadow street at its junction with Main street. The brow of the terrace along which the northern line of the palisades ran was made doubly strong for defense by the steep bank that fell away from

the palisades and by the swampy land at its base. The high banks of the rivers also formed a fine rampart, rendering the palisades along the banks more effective. The area within the palisades is sometimes designated in the old records as "the fort." Owing to the fact that at times those settlers who could not avail themselves of the forted houses without the palisades, were obliged to find places of abode by building within, it was called at times the place of compact dwellings.

There seems to be no record in the town books of the setting up of these palisades, which constituted a general fort for the town. This, however, does not prove that no such action was taken, for early records of the town are incomplete; but perhaps the law of the general court, 1667, rendered the action of the town by vote unnecessary. This law authorized:

"The committee of militia in every toune wth the selectmen thereof, or the major part of them, to erect or cause to be erected within their tounes, either enclosing the meeting houses or some other convenient place, a fortiffication, or fort, of stone, bricke, timber or earth, as the places may be most capable, of such dimensions as may best suite their ability and use; in which fortiffication the weomen, children & aged persons may be secured, in case of any suddaine danger, whereby the souldjers may be more free to oppose an enemy; for the effecting whereof, itt is here by ordered, that the trayned souldiers, both horse and ffoote, in every toune, vpon their trayning dayes, shall be imployed about building the syd fort at the guidance of the chiefe military officers of the toune; and all others exempted from ordinary traynings, who have estates or bodily abillity, that dwell in the toune, or belong to it, they shall also, according to proportion, contribute their help and assistance in bodily labour or otherwise, according as the comitee of militia and select men shall order and appoint."

Westfield, at the time of its settlement, was the town farthest west in Massachusetts. It has been said that Mt. Tekoa, now standing upon the western border of the town, continued to mark the boundary of Massachusetts and the limits of civilization so far as the homes of her people were concerned, until 1725.

The rocky hills west of Tekoa, to those accustomed to the lowlands, the plateaus and the slopes of the valley of the Connecticut, were undesirable as places of abode. When the sons and daughters of the early settlers of Westfield sought new lands they went forty miles west and rested not until they found soil in the valley of the Housatonic as attractive as that of their early home. Another objection to the settlement of the part of Massachusetts west of Westfield was that New York, with its system of land rents, claimed the territory. The western boundary of the Bay State was long a matter of dispute.

Westfield, then, for half a century, was the most western town of the state; and, in proportion to its number of inhabitants, had to do with a larger number of Indians than those dwelling in older towns. Greater caution was here needed in protecting the families of the settlers. The first fort house, as well as those from time to time subsequently "forted," was solidly built, the space between the outside and inside boarding of the walls being filled with material impervious to bullets. An ample cellar was the refuge of women and children when the fort was attacked. Whenever the surrounding Indians were unfriendly or hostile, the strong palisade, extended as we have seen, nearly two miles in circuit, was guarded.

In the stress of Philip's war, settlers who had ventured to make a home outside of the area enclosed by palisades, complied with the plans of a committee of the general court in 1667, requiring settlers to form more compact communities. The proprietors within the palisades agreed to break their lots and allow the outsiders to settle upon them. In payment for every acre so relinquished, two acres were received in outlying lots.

Advantages of Village Settlements.—The clustering of dwellings in hamlets and villages, in the earlier days of New England, has had much to do with the development of the intellectual, religious and social life of her people and of their descendants, many of whom have settled in other parts of our land. The homes of the settlers were near the church building and the school house. In the church centered their religious life. In the school, then as now, children were trained to live and to

act together, to respect each other's rights, to submit to constituted authority and to practice that self-control which is essential to the existence of a free government. Dangers that threatened the very existence of their homes, fears that touched the stoutest hearts, made them one in sympathy, in endurance and in courage. The joys of peace, the rewards of victory they together experienced. While the integrity of the family was stoutly maintained they lived so near to each other that the questions of the day were constantly discussed. They found the saying true:

"Truth like a torch, the more 'tis shook the more it shines."

The strenuous endeavor imposed by deprivations and dangers challenged their heroism, and individual examples were not wanting to stimulate achievement. Each felt that he had something to do in caring for his neighbors, each had a part in promoting the general welfare. The more thoughtful and religious were persuaded that a Divine Providence was guiding them and that they were commissioned to possess the land and to lay the foundations of social order for coming generations.

The external evidences of this social and civic life, made glad "the wilderness and the solitary place." The improvements made in a house and its surroundings by one family stirred the emulation of another. The log houses, after a time, began to give place to better buildings. When at length there were no more wars with the Indians, when unmolested they could gather their harvests, householders vied with each other in building commodious dwellings, having rooms of generous size, with broad fireplaces befitting the generous hospitality of the times. The few large country houses more than a hundred years old that yet remain in Westfield are stately reminders of the taste and the thrift of the forefathers. To-day there is a growing appreciation of the "colonial style" as appropriate for a country home.

Lombardy poplars and other trees and shrubs brought across the seas, set along the borders of the ample front yards, seemed to link them with their English ancestry, while they presented pleasing contrasts with the native trees and shrubs that seemed to glory in their superior power of enduring the vicissitudes of climate.

The kindly rivalry in the attractiveness of the family home and its surroundings which has given the New England village such an enviable reputation had its origin in the desire of the settlers to be near the church and school and in the necessity of protection against the wiles of treacherous foes.

Summarizing the condition of the colonies in the Connecticut valley four years after the incorporation of Westfield, Holland says: "Fifteen hundred would doubtless be an extravagant estimate of the white population of the valley," in 1673. He reckons that the population of Westfield, Deerfield and Northfield taken together was probably from two to four hundred. Westfield was destined for some time to be the westernmost settlement in the valley. For this reason it seemed less desirable as a place of settlement. For several years it contained only a few score of settlers.

Relation to the Indians.—The Indian inhabitants were not numerous, though it is not easy to estimate the number in the valley or in the immediate vicinity of Westfield. The rights of the Indians were generally respected. The settlers bought from them the lands they occupied. The Indians were well treated. It was for their interest to keep the peace that their trade with the whites might not be interrupted. They managed their own affairs, though when living in the neighborhood of a settlement it was their custom in this valley to look to the authorities maintained in the settlement to administer justice. The records of these early times show that the settlers tried to be just to the Indians as to their own people, consequently the Indians usually submitted to the verdicts of the settlers when penalties were visited by the magistrates upon Indians who had wronged the English. It was not uncommon for the magistrates in issuing a warrant to arrest an Indian to give instructions to the constable to abstain from force. The Indians were allowed in several towns to place their clusters of wigwams on land owned by the town and to hold them unmolested. Under very reasonable conditions they were allowed in some towns to build forts upon town land.

When the Indians in Pochasic complained that the English had allowed their cattle to injure the corn of the Indians, claim-

ing damages, the court ordered the claims of the parties to be adjusted according to the following agreement:

"That the English there forever hereafter shall be free from doeing, making or maynteyning any finces about the Indians corne or lands about Pochasick: In consideration whereof the English at Westfield are sometyme this next winter to pay the Indians twenty bush. of Indian corne and (between this and the next spring,) one hundred and twenty fadom of wampum, or ye value thereof. And that they shall cart for the Indians twenty load of fencing stuff, which fencing stuff the Indians are to get in places feazable for the carting: and the English having this performed, the Indians are to secure their own fields, or otherwise not to require anything of the English for damage etc."

The records give evidence that it was the endeavor of the courts to mete out even-handed justice. The settlers used very stringent measures to keep firearms and liquor from the Indians. Yet the frequent and severe fines imposed did not avail to prevent sales. Fines were increased until in some cases £40 and more were paid. Whole townships were sometimes sold for less. Yet drunkenness became fearfully frequent, and so anxious were the Indians to obtain firearms that they found men unprincipled enough to accept the large prices they were willing to pay in exchange for guns. This statement is found in the records of the court of Hampshire county for the year 1670: "The woful drunkenness of the Indians calls aloud to use the most laudable means to prevent that sin among them." Indians when sober must be guarded against, for many of them were treacherous and cunning. When intoxicated and possessed of fire-arms, the worst results might be apprehended.

We have spoken of the fort erected in Westfield. As the settlement extended, fortified houses were built, to furnish outlying posts of defence and places of refuge for those living at a distance from the central fort. In every town a military organization was maintained, and men and boys above fifteen years of age were required to assemble several times in the year to receive military instruction and training. Delinquents were promptly fined. Among the orders adopted at

Springfield in 1639 occurs the following: "It is ordered that the exercise of trayning shall be practised one day in every month; and if occasion doe sometimes hinder, then the like space of time shall be observed another tyme, though it be two days after one another. And whosoever shall absent himself without a lawful excuse, shall forfeit twelve pence, and all above fifteen years of age shall be counted for soldiers." Similar action was taken in other towns.

In 1643, the New England colonies formed a union or league by which they made all wars, whether offensive or defensive, chargeable upon all the colonies in proportion to the male inhabitants between sixteen and sixty years of age. In 1644, a general military organization of the militia was provided for. The several companies of the militia chose their own officers; but all officers higher in rank received their appointment from the general court. That religious qualifications were then regarded essential in public officers is evident in the selection of the first commander-in-chief, Thomas Dudley, "whose faithfulness," we are told, "and great zeal, and love for the truths of Christ, caused the people to choose him to this office, although he were far stricken in years."

Events were at hand which were to tax the military resources, the courage and the endurance of the settlers to the utmost. The commanding influence and large authority of Massasoit, the chief of the Wampanoags, not only over his own tribe, but over neighboring petty tribes, proved a strong bulwark to the Massachusetts colonies from 1621 to the time of his death in 1662—forty-one years. His two sons, Alexander and Philip, survived him. Alexander held the position vacated by the death of his father, only one year, then Philip became the grand sachem of his tribe. He was the opposite of his father in nature and in his purposes. It is said that "for eight or nine years after the accession of Philip to the chieftainship, little is heard of him, save in business transactions with the English, involving the transfer of lands. During this time, however, and in these very transactions, he saw with prophetic forecast, the sceptre departing from his hand and his land absorbed by strangers. During

this time, too, his power had been increased by the acquisition of English arms and by the confirmation of friendly relations with the Narragansetts, established before the death of Massasoit. Skilled beyond savage diplomacy in deception, possessing a mental power that, among the various tribes, carried with it great influence, brave even to ferocity, jealous of the English, and ambitious in proportion to the strength of his intellect, it is not strange that, trampling upon treaties, he should conceive the design of annihilating the English settlements in New England."

King Philip's War.—In 1675, only six years after the incorporation of the town of Westfield, the storm that had been gathering burst upon the colonies. For three years the savages burned dwellings, sometimes destroying whole villages, slew men, women and children, and threatened the utter destruction of the English and all they had wrought. The terror, the anxiety, the suffering of the settlers in the valley of the Connecticut during this period no pen can describe. Those living in Westfield, few in number, and forming a sort of outpost on the advancing line of settlement, seemed most exposed to attack. Yet they held their ground, though frequently urged to fall back toward the more populous towns. Perhaps the newness of the settlement, which prevented the accumulation of stores and other things desired by the Indians, led them to leave Westfield comparatively unharmed, while they plundered and burned most of the other towns in the valley within the limits of Massachusetts. Northfield was bounded on the north by the line of the state, while Springfield was the town farthest to the south. Between these were Westfield, Northampton, Hadley, Hatfield and Deerfield. Springfield and Northampton were the older towns. The newer towns were composed largely of emigrants from the others. Farming was the business of the time, and when a new generation came to manhood, finding the best lands along the river occupied, they felt the need of occupying new territory.

As a result of the terrible devastation of the first year of the war, Deerfield and Northampton were abandoned, and the stress of the war was so severe in the eastern part of the state that the authorities could not easily decide what course to pursue. The

council at Boston, limited in means, in need of men to complete the depleted ranks, finding it impossible to properly garrison the towns in the valley, planned to concentrate the settlements by having the inhabitants of other towns move to Springfield and Hadley.

The plan was proposed to the towns in a letter, dated March 26, 1676, from Secretary Rawson to Major Savage, commander of the Massachusetts forces. The headquarters of the major were at Hadley, which seems at this time to have been more strongly fortified than Northampton. The letter, after setting forth the necessity of concentrating the inhabitants of the valley, adds:

"Some that know those places best, do apprehend that Springfield and Hadley are the fittest places for their fortyfying and planting."

Another letter of similar import was addressed by Secretary Rawson to Major Pynchon of Springfield, dated March 20, 1676. As this letter concerned the people of Westfield we quote from it. The secretary, doubtless expressing the conclusions of the governor and council, says that he can see no other way,

"But to come all together in some convenient place in the town and take in so large a fort that the proprietors may live in distinct houses or shelters . . . . and Westfield must join with you, and totally remove to you, for 'tis impossible to hold both towns, the enemy being so many in those parts and our army must remove from them, we are assaulted on every side. . . . . Most of our frontiers are away off; our present work is to secure the principal towns upon the sea-coast; we cannot see how your people can remove at present, but must ride it out as best you can; we speak not of particular persons but of the body of the people; for whither will you go, or how will you remove your corn and goods? The like advice we have given for the other towns upon the river to come in all to Hadley and fortify it well, and there by united strength it may be kept, but otherwise all will be lost according to reason. Suppose the enemy should plant upon your deserted towns; it is hoped when the corn is grown we may have ability to destroy it. We must

strengthen the heart. Ammunition is scarce here. If your people be averse to our advice, we must be necessitated to draw off our forces from them, for we cannot spare them nor supply them with ammunition. We have ordered the major to leave some of the garrison soldiers to strengthen you, if you are able to provide food for them."

Northampton protested stoutly against removal to Hadley, and Westfield still more stoutly to removal to Springfield.

A town meeting was held by the people of Westfield, and a committee chosen to show reason to the council why the people of Westfield should not remove to Springfield. The letter of the committee which we quote was prepared by the minister, Rev. Edward Taylor:

"Westfield letter
3 Aprill Rec'd
28 Aprill '76"

Honrd Councill: We Presume a Second time to trouble ye Worships with a few lines, ffor having cast orselves, upon ye Honored Counsells concerning or abiding here, or removing hence & for that End having faithfully represented our State unto you we were in Expectation of hearing yr advice. But at last perceiving yr thoughts by ye Order you gave unto Maj. Generall Savage the wch in pt ye have attended upon, viz., to gather op ye mindes of or town respecting or remoove where we made such an offer as this to any that should come to vs, that we would deny orselves to accommodate between twenty & thirty families of or Present tillage land if so many would come to vs & that during ye continuance of ye troubles: ye which in a town meeting was judged by all that we could do; But when or Commitee, came to Consult with or Neighbour towns, although singly, & apart it was generally thought strange that Springfield should be judged a better, & more Convenient place for ffortification than Westfield, they rather was silent, or moving for or remove to Springfield, the wch was & is altogether against or inhabitants, insomuch that there is not a man among vs hath any ye least inclination to remove that way, & in that there is an intimation of such a thing in yr Honrd Order to ye Generall, as if Springfield

&c: was fittest for ffortification, with great respect vnto ye Information we cannot but take ye boldness as to intimate ye grounds of or thoughts to ye Contrary, as 1. Its Situation lying on both sides of ye great River Connecticut, whose East Side is voyd of habitations being but a very few left, & those a great distance asunder those on ye West side being scattered above a mile up & down some of which are hid with brambles, & as for its tillidge ground ye most being a great distance from ye town & not cleare from brush in some places of it & to it, in so much as an indifferent person cannot but judge (as we suppose) yt ye Danger is double in mannaging ffield imploym'nt: to what ors is. 2. Its Preparation, It is a Place (with griefe of heart be it spoken) most of ye East side in ashes, vnbuilt & vnfortified vnlese some few houses. 3. Its Providentiall Dispensation. It hath been sorely under ye blasting hand of God, So that it hath but in a lower degree than ordinary answered ye labour of ye Husbandman, & sometimes his labour on it is wholely cast away, now these thoughts are very discouraging vnto all thoughts of or removall thither, for to remove from Habitations to none, from ffortifications to none, from a Compact and plain place to scatter'd, from a place of lesse danger in ye ffield to ye more, from a place under ye ordinary Blessing vpon ovr Labours to one vsually blasted, seems to vs such a strange thing that we finde not a man amongst vs inclining thereto, wherefore being by ye Honord Councill at Hartford, vpon address for strength from them, yt wth their own necessities could not dispence with, adviced not to desert ye place as yet, we are determined to draw in or out Garrison houses, and to Contract or ffortification into ye Compass of about 70 rodslong, yewich or thoughts are to ffortifie strongly and to keep with five flankers, and for this end ovr earnest suit is that you would allow vs, if, it may bee a garrison of thirty souldiers, we are not without hope of gaining some Corn for our families as yet. But if you cannot allow any, then or present thoughts are that if we cannot have a safe Convoy from ye town to some place downward, it is judged that we had better abide here in or ffortification thus strengthened, and that although we have no help from abroad, with respect to or own

safety than to go to Springfield. It grieves vs that we should object so much against Springfield for ye Worshipfull Maj'r Pynchon's sake, But we judge there is a better way for his safety than this, & although we would do much for his sake, yet we cannot adventure on this ground into such great hazzard as appears. Here are some young men with vs its said would inlist themselves in Country service to garrison if they could be admitted, whom necessity will force from vs if it cannot be.

Ffurthermore, we are at ye Present altogether incapacitated for any removall, by reason of ye awfull hand of God upon us in Personall visitations, for here came a souldier sick of ye Bloody fflux, and dying amongst vs in Capt. Cook's family, hath infected ye ffamily therewith in somuch that he hath lost a son of it, his Wife lies at ye point of Death his youngest son is very weak of it, and he him selfe is almost brought to his bed by it, & there is another ffamily in his house hath it. We hope yr Worships will Pardon or teadiousness, & give or arguments a Patient hearing for surely it is against vs to say as we do, if great danger did not stare us in ye fface. The Good Lord Sanctifie, and deliver vs. We remain

Yr Servants, & Suppliants
in the name of the Towne.

ISAAC PHELPS,
DAVID ASHLY,
JOSIAH DEWEY.

Westfield, 3, 2*m.* 1676,

The letters from the council so vigorously met by protest by the people of Northampton and by the people of Westfield "show," as Trumbull, the author of the recent admirable history of Northampton has well said, "that a state almost of panic prevailed among the leading men of the colony. Beset on all sides, the authorities knew not which way to turn. Needing their resources for the defense of the eastern towns, they must devise some means by which the valley settlements could take care of themselves. The most feasible method seemed to be that of union for a common defense. Such a concentration and abandonment of towns must have resulted in the entire removal of the English from the valley. This advice was injudicious and disheartening.

Fortunately the proposition found no supporters, among those who were most immediately interested in the suggested movement. Strong, able and voluminous protests were showered upon the council. The authorities had misjudged the spirit of the settlers. They were not yet ready to give up all that they had toiled so hard, and suffered so much to gain. They refused to yield their homes, their land, and their household effects to the fury of the savage foe. Such a course, while it would greatly encourage the enemy, and proclaim the panic existing among the English, would also add impetus to the reported designs of the French, as shadowed by the statements of the Indians, that they intended to drive out the English and recolonize the country."

If the battle of the French and English upon the Plains of Abraham adjacent to Quebec in 1759 may be regarded as the Thermopylae of the occupancy of America by the English rather than by the French, the determined stand of the people of Northampton and Westfield may be reckoned as the Marathon.

Events soon proved the wisdom of remaining at Westfield instead of moving to Springfield. October 5, Springfield was attacked and most of its houses burned. Owing to the destruction of their corn mill, the people of Springfield resorted to Westfield to have their corn ground. Fortunately for both towns, the mills owned by three Dewey brothers, Thomas, Josiah and Jedadiah, and Joseph Whiting, on Two-Mile brook, the outlet of Congamond ponds, had been completed in 1672. These mills were on the Windsor road, a mile or more west of the schoolhouse at Little river. The Dewey grist mill was the first grist mill built in Westfield.

The minister, Rev. Edward Taylor, noted some of the events of Philip's war. He says, beginning in the year 1675, "but summer coming opened a door unto that desolating war began by Philip, Sachem of the Pokoneket Indians, by which this handful was sorely pressed, yet sovereignly preserved, but yet not so as that we should be wholly exempted from the fury of war, for our soil was moistened by the blood of three Springfield men, young Goodman Dumbleton, who came to our mill, and two sons of Goodman Brooks, who came here to look after the iron on the

land he had lately bought of Mr. John Pynchon, Esq. Who being persuaded by Springfield folk, went to accompany them, but fell in the way by the first assault of the enemy made upon us, at which time they burned Mr. Cornish's house to ashes and also John Sacket's with his barn and what was in it, being the first snowy day of winter; they also at this time lodged a bullet in George Granger's leg, which was, the next morning taken out by Mr. Bulkley, and the wound soon healed. It was judged that the enemy did receive some loss at this time, because in the ashes of Mr. Cornish's house were found pieces of the bones of a man lying about the length of a man in the ashes. Also in winter, some skulking rascals, upon a Lord's day, in the time of our afternoon worship fired Ambrose Fowler's house and barn; but in the latter end and giving up of winter, the last snowy day we had thereof, we discovering an end of Indians, did send out to make a full discovery of the same, designing only three or four to go out, with order that they should not assault them, but to our woe and smart, there going 10 or 12, not as scouts, but as assailants, rid furiously upon the enemy, from whom they received a furious charge, whereby Moses Cook, an inhabitant, and Clemence Bates, a soldier, lost their lives. Clemence in the place and Moses at night. Besides which we lost none of the town, only at the Falls fight at Deerfield, there going nine from our town, three garrison soldiers fell. Thus, though we lay in the very rode of the enemy, we were preserved, only the war had so impoverished us that many times we were ready to leave the place."

During the first year of the war, and earlier, Westfield and other towns in Western Massachusetts repaired and completed their lines of palisades. This work went on during the winter of 1675-6, which is said to have been a mild season. The Indians seem to have retired beyond the northern boundaries of Massachusetts.

In March, 1676, we find the following action was taken: "The town considering the hand of God upon us in having or letting loose the Indians upon us, so that now we cannot carry on our occasion for liberty had as formerly; and considering that it

is not a time now to advance our state, but tardy our rate of our former advantage, that so we may carry on something together for the good of the whole, that so by God's blessing on our labors we may be in a way of getting food for our families, therefore in case the honored court laid not cost or repose, we agree to carry on as followeth; we agree to fence only the northeast field, ... and we agree to plow and sow and carry on the improvements of this field in general; that is, such as shall agree hereunto as it shall be ordered by some men that we shall appoint, who shall go out to work and who shall tarry at home from day to day; and if it shall please God to give opportunity to rate the long fit of labouring, men shall resume an equal proportion according to his family. Necessary public charges, [if] any, first charged. And the rest, if any man sow more seed than his proportion, he shall reserve that again in the first plan [place]. The men chosen to order the whole matter for service and farming are Goodman Ashley Seignoir and Goodman Gunn. We who agree hereunto do promise and engage to submit ourselves to the said proportion as witness our hands.

George Phelps,	Josiah Dewey,
Thomas Gunn,	Nathaniel Weller,
Samuel Loomis,	Thomas Dewey,
Isaack Phelps,	John Sacket,
David Ashley,	Edward Neal."

The above record is obtained from what seems to be a record but partly understood by the one copying it into the present books of the town. Hence its incoherency.

The condition of affairs in the winter of 1675-6 was in Westfield most disheartening. Deerfield and Northfield, newer outlying towns like Westfield, had suffered terribly and had been abandoned. However mild the early winter, later the cold was intense, and the snow was deep; yet this may have helped to hold the Indians in their wigwams in the valleys of Vermont. The population, as Edward Taylor said, was but a "handful," probably less than one hundred and fifty, possibly not over one hundred, all told. Some of the men had fallen. Some, discouraged with the outlook, had moved to larger towns that seemed safer

from attack. Soldiers left by Major Treat, to garrison the town, when he led his division back into Connecticut, were billeted upon the householders; less had been planted than usual. The troublous times and the withdrawal of men for defense and for war had left what was planted in a measure uncared for, and in part, unharvested. Grain and other supplies had been levied to supply the needs of the forces. How to husband the limited supplies for man and beast so as to survive the winter, was a perplexing problem, and who could tell how soon they would be assaulted?

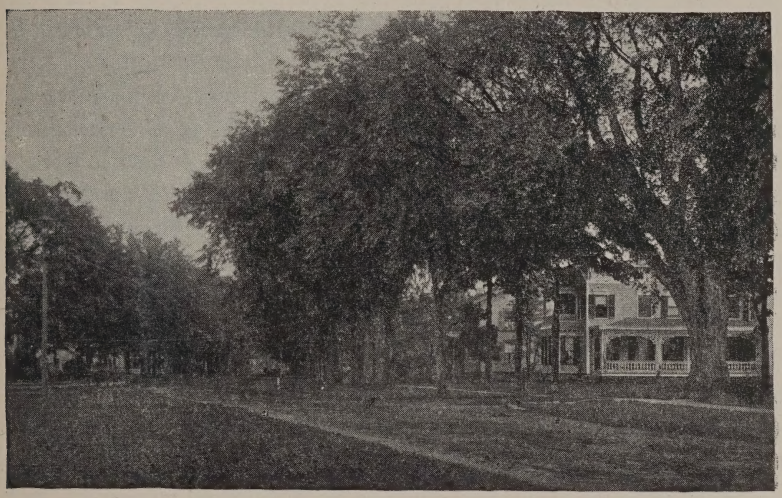
As William G. Bates has written: "In the case of our fathers, there was nothing to sustain them but their own fortitude, inspired by their own high hopes of the future. It was no holiday warfare which was impending. . . . . The result was to be literally victory or death, not a death to them only, but a death of extermination of all their kindred."

"Nor can we fail to admire, also, the heroism of those, who were left almost alone in their homes of precarious safety, when the stalwart men of the settlement went forth to war. The infirm and those of immature age, were their only defenders. It was for them to protect the families against a stealthy foe, whose war-whoop was followed, at once, by the torch and the tomahawk, which too often awoke and silenced a whole settlement. They were the guardians, who, from the summit of the watch-tower, were to watch, and listen through the long days, and the longer nights, for the approach of the savage, and to patrol, during the same periods, along the poorly constructed palisades. In the meantime, the anxious mothers were snatching their broken slumbers, in the embraces of their terrified children, their rest disturbed by dreams of danger, and visions of disaster."

The news from the valleys of Manchester and Sunderland in Vermont, where late in the year 1675 the Indians had made their camps, was not encouraging. Two of the captives taken by the Indians were purposely allowed full opportunity to count their rank and file, when drawn up in full array, and then freed and sent to Albany. They reported that twenty-one hundred were well armed, evidently ready to slaughter and devastate until the

English should be driven from the land. The effectiveness of this body of Indians was increased by the knowledge and skill of those Indians who had lived near the settlements and mingled with the English.

The wasteful feasting and revelling in the camp rapidly reduced the stores gained by pillage the season before. Soon a large division with limited rations was upon the warpath, as fierce for prey as hungry wolves. Early in March, Lancaster, Chelmsford and a half-dozen other places in the eastern part of the state were attacked.



Broad Street, Westfield

On the 14th of March, the yells of the savages on all sides of the stockade awoke the people of Northampton to the terrific fact that the town was assaulted. The Indians with unwonted fury made the attack on three sides of the stockade. Soon they were pouring into one opening. Four houses outside and one inside were soon in flames. The soldiers of the garrison, under the leadership of Capt. Turner, and those of the two Connecticut companies, under Major Treat, who had providentially reached Northampton the night before—less than two hundred in all—in

the lurid light of the burning buildings hemmed in the Indians within the stockade, killed many, while the others retreated through the opening. These Indians found themselves entrapped and never after did a body of assaulting Indians rush into a stockade through a narrow opening.

The successful repulse of this impetuous assault of the Indians seems to have effectually arrested their advance to the south. Had they succeeded, or had their loss been less severe, Westfield, the next town at that time on the south, must have suffered. The little settlement at Westfield with its slender garrison could hardly have survived the attack of so large a force of Indians as swarmed that night around the stockade at Northampton.

Companies of Indians frequently changing their camp, ever intent upon plunder, stealthily prowling about in the neighborhood of the towns, continued to terrify the English and to gather booty. Soon after the attack on Northampton, a large body of Indians appeared at Hatfield, but Capt. Samuel Moseley was prepared for them and they were not anxious to repeat the severe experiences at Northampton.

On the 26th of March, 1676, a company of people on their way to church from Longmeadow to Springfield were waylaid by Indians. Two were killed, two wounded and two women and their babes captured. During the winter, two men were killed and two houses burned in Westfield.

Harassed on every side by attacks of Indians, now here, now there, and unable to adequately garrison the towns against such numerous and ubiquitous foes, the Connecticut council sent a flag of truce up the river, asking for an exchange of prisoners, and suggesting a treaty of peace. The Indians who had enjoyed the just dealings of the people of Westfield, and tribes who had enjoyed the hospitality of towns in Massachusetts farther up the valley, were ready for peace. But the larger body of the Indians parleyed, that they might lay in a store of provisions at the spring fisheries and plant the deserted meadows of Deerfield and some other fields. April was a quiet month; the Indians were busy fishing and carousing. They were gathered in large num-

bers in May about the falls above Deerfield on the Connecticut river.

Though Capt. Turner was too ill to undertake so hazardous an enterprise as an attack upon the Indians, he was appointed to lead. Three of the nearly one hundred and fifty mounted men, who made the night march from Hatfield to what is now known as Turner's Falls, were Westfield men. These brave men surprised the Indians at break of day, while they were yet sleeping off the night's debauch, the consequence of a successful raid upon the village of Hatfield, May 30th, 1676. This slaughter of Indians at the Falls, was the severest blow yet inflicted by the English upon the Indians in the valley. The courage and endurance of the attacking party, though the Indians greatly outnumbered them, impressed the Indians with the unconquerable valor of the English. The fight at Turner's Falls, where so many Indians were slain, or, in the panic, drowned in the river, was one of the most decisive battles in Philip's war. This battle, together with the repulse of the well-planned attack on Northampton, the hostility of the Mohawks and disputes and disagreements that arose between sachems and tribes soon led to the disintegration of the Indian forces. Still the inhabitants in the valley and those in other parts of the state could not divine when they would again unite. Indians were still prowling about in different places shooting men, occasionally stealing cattle, and committing other depredations.

On the 19th of September, 1676, a party of Indians from Canada descended upon Hatfield, killing twelve men, wounding four, and taking seventeen prisoners. This was the heaviest loss of men, women and children yet experienced by any Hampshire town. On the evening of the same day, the raiding party was at Deerfield. Five men were there erecting houses on their abandoned farms, hoping soon to reinstate their families. The five men were captured and though hotly pursued, the Indians made good their escape to Canada.

Not knowing that this was the last raid of the war, and knowing that the skill of the Indians, increased by three years of active warfare, made them, if again united, more dangerous than

ever, the general court appointed a committee to bring the residents in towns more closely together in order to better provide for their defense.

The order of the committee having jurisdiction of Westfield, as copied from our town records by Louis M. Dewey, genealogist, is as follows:

"NORTHAMPTON, Nov. 19, 1677.

"At a meeting of the Committee for ordering Compact Dwelling together for better defence and safety—present John Pynchon, Lt. William Clark, Mr. Peter Tilton, Lt. William Allin, En'sn Samuel Loomise. For Westfield we do order that the Inhabitants there do all possess and settle together in that tract of land which lies from about Hugh Dudley's barn easterly to take in Mr. Taylor's house and their meeting house and so to turn south or southwest beyond Goodman Phelps his toward the hill by the bridge, so far that way as to have land for convenient building for all the Inhabitants; and then turning westerly all they can near over against Hugh Dudley's barn, whence to turn to that and into the street there; and all the Inhabitants there are to repair to and settle within that tract of land, except we do allow of Thomas Dewey to Continue where he is, if he desire it, in regard of the mill that way and security to the Common road, yet it is provided he be well fortified and take care to have 5 or 6 men with him for his defence; and Ambrose Fowler having now built is to fortify himself well and to have 5 or 6 men with him of his family, we permit his abiding awhile till we see what next summer may come to; but for all other persons, according to order of General Court requiring our stating the compactness of their Dwellings, we order their removing and setting as above.

"In the tract of land above mentioned and forthwith to prepair and fit to attend the same, getting fortification this winter and ready to sett up early in the spring which will advise to be made strong and substantial, and every one of them to carry on their proportion in the fortification; and in case of their disagreeing about the way or rule of proportioning it, Majr. Pynchon, with anyone more of the committee, to determine the same according to discretion we have had together and directions there

about; and for satisfaction to such whose land must be made use of for others to build on, understanding the Inhabitants are in a way to allow land for it, we advise their agreement thereabouts; and case of any disagreement about it, according to the rule we have set for others, Majr. Pynchon and any one more of the committee to determine the same and order of the Committes."

The town having already fixed upon the area described by the committee as most suitable for defense, and having already fortified some of it readily concurred in the report of the committee.

We have already spoken of the Dewey mills built on Two-Mile brook on the Windsor road. The house of Ambrose Fowler was on the west side of the road that runs from East Silver street, through the meadows and under the railroad bridge, about half way between Silver street and the bridge.

In 1679, May 30, the general court enacted the following:

"Whereas the committee appointed by the Gennerall Court in October 1677, for new modelling the dwelling of people in Hampshire, did accordingly order a coming nearer together in some of those tounes, & living more compact, for safety & security of the said people, and particularly appoynting a tract of land for the inhabitants of Westfield, to build on nearer together at or by their meeting house; and some of the committee aforesajd having treated the inhabitants of Westfield about it, who by a generall vote consented to the settling thereon; and the proprietors of that land also yielding to breake their home lots, & forgoe part of their right and interest in them to such other persons as should come and settle on them, they, the present proprietors, being allowed for the land they parted with two acres for one out of the tounes adjacent lands intended for home lots, or thereabouts, which was accordingly granted by the toune, to incourage the persons to bring in and sett their buildings on those particular parcells or portions of lands which were sett out and measured to them, being about half an acre, or three quarters of an acre to a man—now, for the full assurance of those portions of land to such persons as have removed, or are about removing, & settling, building thereon, this Court doth order

those persons which have or ought to have parted with their land as abovesajd, having had or being tendered satisfaction from the toune, as above, they shall give deeds, and make legall confirmations of those small portions of land vnto those persons, who. in obedience vnto authority, have them in actual possession or in grant in order thereunto."

Philip's war, so far as concerted action of Indian tribes was concerned, was over; but roving bands of Indians still demanded unceasing vigilance in guarding life and property.

Quaker Troubles.—The difficulties with the Quakers were mainly in the eastern part of the state. Westfield, however, was not wholly exempt. George Fyler, the first surgeon mentioned among the early settlers of Northampton, was granted a home lot of six acres and an additional thirty acres, on condition that he should build on his lot and remain four years. He seems to have come into possession of the land, but soon after sold it and removed to Westfield. At the March term of the court in 1673:

"George ffiler of Westfield being prsented by the Jury for divers disorders and being examined firstly for entertayning Quakers last summer he owns he did entertayne them being necessitated thereunto because none else would as he sayes. George ffiler sayth he shall before the World own that he is one of them whom ye world calls Quakers: Also he is prsented for absenting himselfe from God's publike worshipp on ye Sabbaths, he ownes he has genrally absented himself genrally last winter. His speeches have been contemptuous of the Ministers of the Word, and their work, viz. that they turne over 20 or 3o Authors a weeke to patch up an houres discourse or two on the Sabbath. And tho he would prtend that he meant not the ministry in that town or of N. England yet by testimonyes it appears otherwise. He seems to be a very seminary of corrupt heriticall opinions tending to poysoning and corrupting the minds of them with wm he hath to doe. And in speaking of the religion of the Quakers (he speaks of it as distinct from that prfessed by our Nation in this country); he calls it Our religion, that is his own and such as hee. The said George ffiler for his venting of his hetorodoxyes and adhering to the pnicious

wayes of the Quakers was prtested agt by the Corte and admonisht thereof. And for his absenting himself fro Gods Ordinances on the Sabbath haveing been formrly admonisht thereof, both by ye Worppll Major Pynchon and also by Westfield Commissionrs was now also admonisht ye of by the Corte. And it declared to him that it was in order to further dealing with him except he reform his course therein. And for his contemptuous and scandalous speeches of the ministry of the country and of Christ's holy institutions as denying the Sacramts, &c., he is sentenced to pay a fyne to ye County 5*s* or els to be well whipt.'' Thomas Noble of Westfield agreed to see the fine paid.

Early Highways.—The settlers first made their way through the forests and across the glades by following the Indian trails. Some of these trails were the result of no little experience on the part of the Indians, in finding the most feasible routes over mountains, across streams, and along valleys. The sons of the forest have proved unwittingly the preliminary surveyors of many of our old highways.

As early as 1635 and 1636, the towns of Springfield, Wethersfield, and Hartford were incorporated. From these towns came the first settlers of Northampton. Those from Springfield went on the east side of the river. Most of those from the other towns, went by a track on the west side of the river, before the town of Westfield was incorporated. Northampton was organized as a town as early as 1655, earlier than the record of any English settlers in Westfield.

The county of Hampshire, then including all Western Massachusetts, was incorporated in 1662. Two years later by authority of the county, two roads, or ''cart ways,'' as they were called, were laid out. One road was to be on the east side of the river to connect Hadley and Northampton with Springfield, the other to connect Hadley and Northampton with Windsor and Hartford. As this latter road is the oldest highway crossing the territory of Westfield, and is in part now maintained as a town highway, we give its course, taken from the records at Northampton, as noted by Sylvester Judd. The road from Northampton and Hadley to Springfield and from thence ''to the dividing lyne be-

tweene the Collonyes'' (of Massachusetts and Connecticut) is first outlined and then proceeding from south to north, the road on the west side of the river, as follows:

''And from the said dividing lyne on the West side of ye river towards Waranoak, in the way that is now improved, commonly called ye new way, that is to say, to two mile brooke fourty rods, and from thence to Waranoak hill where the trading house stood, twenty rods, and from thence to ye passage of ye river where ye way now lies six rods, and from thence through ye other meddow to ye great hill as the way now lies six rodds and from thence to Munhan river forty rods, and from Munhan river to ye lotts now laid out neere ye mill river fourty rods, and from thence to the town of Northampton ffoure rods, ... And the wayes and bridges from the landing place at the great river [in Northampton] unto the top of Waranoak hill to be made and mayntayned by North Hampton, and from thence unto Windsor to be made and mayntayned by Hadley and Northampton mutually. And further we determine yt if Hadly and Northampton eyther or both of them shall at anytyme hereafter see cause to desert the highway they now use and shall make the way through Springfield their comon roade to Windsor for carting, then eyther or both shall contribute to ye mending the bridge at Long Meddow. And for these several wayes and bridges to be made and repaired sufficient for travel with carts, we determine that they be done by the severall townes respectively at or before ye sixth day of June next, as also yt such stones as are movable in Scanunganunk river be turned aside out of the cartway and ye charge thereof to be paid by the County Treasurer.''

For several years Springfield, Hadley and Northampton maintained these two ''cart-ways'' as far as Windsor, where was the line between Massachusetts and Connecticut, as claimed by the former. The number of rods given in the description of the road from one point to another is the number of rods in width. It may seem strange that the road should be laid out in some places twenty rods, and in others, forty rods wide. The explanations given are two: First; where the land was unoccupied and covered with trees there was more or less danger of being at-

tacked by one or more skulking Indians, plying the business of killing and robbing on the highway. Wood and timber was scarce on many of the alluvial tracts first occupied, owing to the annual fires of the Indians, preparatory to planting and grazing, so that trees growing upon highway land could be easily removed by allowing any one to cut any trees not reserved by order of the town or of the central authority at Boston.

Another reason was that the committee laying out the road, felt that where land was unoccupied, the road should be laid out of sufficient width to allow opportunity to change the road-bed as economy or the public convenience might require. The road we have noticed was known in Westfield as the Windsor road. Tracing it in the direction it was laid out, we find it entered the southeast part of our present township in the vicinity of what is now known as Longyard, and pursuing a westerly course until it reached Two-Mile brook, crossed it, and then pursued a northerly course passing, as it now does, across the west end of Little river street at right angles to it, and, as now, reaching East Main street, near the present bridge across the Westfield river. Thence it continued westerly on the bank of the river, crossing it some distance below its junction with Little river; then taking a northerly direction across the meadows up the hill at Springdale, ("through the other meddow to ye great hill" as the committee described it) and across the plains on the west side of Hampton Ponds to Northampton. The present road on the west of these ponds is several rods farther west than the old Windsor road, though essentially the same.

This road and the road east of the river for nearly half a century were the main lines of transportation for all goods brought into Western Massachusetts and for all products carried out, whether the goods were from places east, south or west, or whether the products were destined for places in any one of those directions. If grain, very largely a substitute for money, beef and pork, or lumber, were to be sent to Boston in payment of taxes, or for purposes of trade, this freight was generally carted to Windsor, below the falls, or to Hartford, and thence transported by water. The carting was over the same roads if the freight was to or from New York.

The way from the valley to the west was from Westfield over the hills through Blandford, to Kinderhook and thence to Albany.

Among the captives taken at Hatfield by the Indians during their last raid upon towns in the valley, were the wife and three children of Benjamin Waite and the wife and two children of Stephen Jennings.

The two husbands procuring the requisite papers from the general court and appropriation toward the expenses, went to Canada whither the retreating Indians had gone. There they found the prisoners. After tedious negotiations, occupying nearly two months, they succeeded in ransoming all the captives. As soon as the people of Hatfield learned that the company under a French escort had in spite of the lingering winter, reached Albany, a company from Hatfield with horses and provisions started to meet the returning captives. Going by way of Westfield they met them at Kinderhook, May 27, 1678. They all returned by way of Westfield to Hatfield. For nearly a century this route seems to have been almost the only one in Massachusetts from the valley of the Connecticut to the valley of the Hudson.

Over this trail passed Indians before and during Philip's war on their way to and from Connecticut, avoiding Westfield, but coming near enough at times to excite great fear. Along this way during the many years of the French and Indian wars went horsemen and footmen and military supplies. For many years a fort was maintained at what is now Blandford to furnish convoy and defence and quarters for rest. General Amherst and his army on his way from Boston to Canada, destined by the aid of Wolfe and Prideaux to strike the final blow to the tottering domination of the French on this continent, stopped one night at Westfield, another at Blandford, another at Sandisfield and another at Monterey.

During the war for independence, the teams mustered in Westfield and elsewhere to get through the snow or over the mud and the hills from Westfield to Albany, were sometimes of no ordinary size. It is a matter of history that "it took twenty yoke

of oxen and eighty men to convey a mortar over the hills to West Point." Twenty of these eighty men would be required to drive the oxen. Whether the remaining sixty were employed in opening the drifts or in strengthening the rude bridges and in bedding the mud holes with boughs is not stated.

A part of the prisoners taken at Bennington, in 1777, passed over this road on their way through Westfield to Boston.

This road was the route of Burgoyne's army after its defeat at Stillwater, on their way to Boston. After a three days' halt at Otis, they moved on, stopping one night in Westfield, we are told. After the war, this road was designated, "The great road from Boston to Albany." It was the only road between these places directly crossing Berkshire county. Over this road came Washington when visiting New England after the war. He was for a little while the guest of General Shepard, then living on Franklin street. Other events worthy of note that occurred along this highway, however many, are not discoverable in the scanty chronicles of the past, or, if recorded, have escaped our notice. The intersection of these highways in Westfield, the one running north and south, with the "great road" running east and west, has tended to promote the intelligence of the people of Westfield and to render them more cosmopolitan than people living remote from avenues of travel and traffic.

The way connecting Springfield and Westfield was laid out as a highway at an early date.

Westfield, then, at the time of its incorporation, 1669, was not so much of an out-of-the-way place as many have supposed. It was on the line of communication of all the towns in the valley, with Albany and places farther west. It was on a main line of communication between towns in the valley north and south of Westfield.

Mr. Judd tells us that "there is no record of goods being brought from Boston to Connecticut river by land, except small quantities on horseback, before 1767, so that for a century after the settlement of Westfield, goods from Boston came to the town, as to other towns in the valley, by water around the cape along the south shore and up the Connecticut river to Hartford and

Windsor and then by cart to towns farther north." In the year 1767 it is recorded that one Simeon Smith of Amherst "carried down produce and brought up goods for traders and others, in the towns on both sides of the river." He made his way with a wagon, over the ungraded roads, sometimes with a load weighing nearly a ton. He charged from a dollar to a dollar and a half per hundred for his freight. He did not make regular trips in winter, the roads in some places being blocked by snow drifts. Drummers would have had a sorry time of it in those days. Peddlers with thread, needles and other small articles on horseback were not uncommon on the bay paths running from Hadley and Springfield to Boston. The foot peddler, even in winter time, with his pack or with his two little tin trunks hung from the ends of a shoulder yoke to lessen the pull upon his arms, could make his way from house to house over the deepest snow and the highest drifts on his snowshoes or rackets, as they were called.

Simeon Smith did not long plod his way alone over the hills and through the forests to Boston. Other teamsters began to keep company with him. We have no record of those from Westfield, but in the winter, after "hog killing," the farmers would load their pork on "pungs" drawn by horses, and, forming a train of loaded teams, move on to Boston. If they found the road drifted they could "all turn to and shovel out." Fortunately, a good share of the way forest trees protected the snow from the "piling winds." If a hill was unusually steep, they could "double" their teams, and thus cheerily pull up one load after another. Having made successful sales their homeward trips with full pockets and light loads of sugar, molasses and other household supplies, and their merry and sometimes boisterous ways, led to the charge of "revylyng on the highwayes"; but there was no reporter to put up a column concerning their performances nor a daily paper to publish it. As they neared their homes the old responsibilities again impressed them, and they entered Westfield with a mien as sedate as that of their horses. The titles "Colonel," "Captain," "Ensign," etc., seemed to rest upon them as appropriately as if their boyish escapades had not occurred. That Boston had learned of the products of Westfield

not many years after the incorporation of the town, is evident from the diary of Chief Justice Samuel Sewall, who has been styled "the Puritan Pepys." Writing in 1692, he says: "Our kitchen chimney fell on fire about noon, and blazed out sorely at top, appeared to be foul; the fire fell on the shingles so that they began to burn in several places, being very dry; but by the good Providence of God, no harm was done. Mr. Fisk was with us, and we sat merrily to a dinner on the Westfield pork that was snatched from the fire on this occasion."

Town Roads.—A volume might be written describing the town roads and streets of Westfield. As early as 1667, or very soon thereafter, Main street, Union street, Meadow street and Silver street were laid out. The street that once ran from Westfield river across Main street, near the Little river bridge, south to Silver street, was long ago cut off by Little river. So much of South street as runs north from Silver street to the river bank is all that remains of old South street. Little river was forded in early times above the bridge. From this ford the road took a northeasterly course into the Windsor road by the bank of the river. The present road between the bridges is comparatively new. The way to the plains (Southwick) on the south was along South street to the river ford above the present railroad, thence across the river and up the hill in a southwesterly direction.

The Early French and English Wars.—King Philip's war had ended in 1677. As the Indians no longer attacked towns nor massed their warriors for desolating expeditions, the blessings of peace returned. Confidence was gradually restored. Houses and barns were rebuilt, the western towns were strengthened in numbers and in wealth by the arrival of new settlers. The areas of occupancy were widened. Forests hitherto undisturbed by the woodman's axe began to echo with its sound and open lands untouched by the implements of tillage were subjected to the plough. Prosperity returned. The abundance of good land easily obtained as yet in the valley, made it comparatively easy to reduce the indebtedness incurred by the war.

The years of peace, however, were few. In 1688 William and Mary became the sovereigns of England. The war known

as King William's war between the French and English involved the colonists in fresh difficulties. This was the first of four conflicts, which, as Francis Parkman remarks, "ended in giving Great Britain a maritime and colonial preponderance over France and Spain." "So far as concerns the colonies and the sea," he adds, "these several wars may be regarded as a single and protracted one, broken by intervals of truce." Like the solitary oaks upon the mountainside, that come to full strength and maturity exposed to the sunlight and the storms, so each New England settlement during many years experienced its vicissitudes of peace and war, of plenty and want, of joy and sorrow, through all, growing in strength and in wisdom. At length the character and culture of the people of New England have come to determine the character of a nation.

During King William's war, Deerfield, being the northern settlement in the valley, Northfield not yet being resettled, suffered the loss of several inhabitants at the hands of skulking Indians; but Westfield suffered little. During Queen Anne's war the sack of Deerfield on the last day of February, 1704, thrilled with horror the people of Westfield. The French and Indians, after much slaughter and house burning, started over the snow for Canada with one hundred and eleven prisoners. Who could tell when the next town in the valley would be overpowered?

May 14, as soon as the condition of the ground was favorable to repairing the stockade, "it was voted unanimously that all persons shall work both with themselves and theire teames att repairing of the fort aboute Mr. Taylor's house forthwith & whosoever shall neglect to doe his share shall pay theire equal proportion to others according to what work is done att sd fort or worke at some other public workes of ye towne."

At a town meeting June 30, 1704, "it was voted unanimously by ye inhabitants that ye severall houses in the town that are forted, hereafter named shall stand and be defended and have there severall proportions of men posted to them (by ye committy appoynted) as may be accounted convenient under theire circumstances for theire defense viz. Mr. Taylor's Stephen

Kellog's Consider Maudsley's, John Sacket's John Noble's, Thomas Root's."

At the same meeting "it was unanimously voted that ye severall housen and garrisons above mentioned shall be free (as well for the proper owners,) for all families and good (according to their proportions) who shall be appoynted to the severall garrisons by the committy of malisha."

Trumbull says: "Constant rumors of an approaching enemy kept the country in a continued state of alarm. At no time since Philip's war, twenty-eight years previous, had there been so many soldiers in the county. They were quartered in every town, and there were marchings and countermarchings in every direction. Indians, spies and scouts of the approaching army, filled the forests. Parties of English, many of them citizens of the river towns, incessantly ranged the woods. None of the inhabitants dared venture far beyond the fortifications without an efficient guard, and the occupations of the farming community were greatly interfered with, if not wholly suspended." In spite of the vigilance of the English, during this and several years following, Indian murders were not infrequent. In 1708, Haverhill was attacked, about forty persons killed and many taken captive. The various expeditions fitted out by the colonists against the French in Canada, not meeting with the needed aid from England, failed of decisive results.

During the ten years of the war one hundred and nineteen persons were killed in Hampshire county, twenty-five wounded, while the captives numbered one hundred and twenty-five.

The burden of taxes which the war imposed upon Massachusetts was enormous, and the means of paying them were scanty. An average tax of more than a million a year was levied upon the people of Massachusetts. The treaty of Utrecht, in March, 1713, establishing peace, was hailed with joy and thanksgiving.

Though England and France were at peace, the Indians hovering near the towns were still ready to plunder whenever it seemed to them safe to do so, and, like hounds that have tasted blood, they were prone to take life.

In 1744, the terrors of King George's war darkened the land. At a legal town meeting April 27, 1747, "it was voted that the Commission Officers and the Selectmen and Doctor Ashley shall be the Committy to see what measures and what houses should be forted and to make Report to the town what is best to be done: att the same meeting it was voted to pay a scout that may be sent by the Commission officers out after the discovery of the enemy if the province will not pay them: this meeting was voted to be continued by adjournment untill Monday next the 4. day of May: the town met at the time adjourned to and the Committy Reported to the town that they were determined it was best to make a fort Round Stephen Kelloggs house and Lieut Consider Mosleys and Doct. Ashley house and one over the Little River and one over the great River and two watch boxes and to be done by the town."

The "Doctor Ashley house," spoken of in the above note, was situated in Silver street at the south end of Noble street, on the site of William Atkins's house. The building has been razed within a few years, to make room for a modern structure. The base of the second story projected over the top of the first story, and the walls were fortified against musket-balls. The fort-houses were situated in positions convenient for the refuge of the inhabitants, in case of a hostile attack. The old Ingersoll house, not long ago standing over Little river, is said to have been the one which was fortified, or "forted."

The peace of Aix-la-Chapelle brought a respite to the colonists of only a few years. In 1754 began the tremendous struggle of the French and English for the dominant power in North America. The cost to the towns in the valley, both in men and in money, was large; but in the campaigns of this last and widespread French and Indian war, the English of the colonies were trained in the art of organized warfare and rendered effective service in many terrible battles. In the four hours' fight near the shore of Lake George, in the expedition against Crown Point, in 1755, victory was won largely by the stubborn valor of the Hampshire regiment. Nearly one-fourth of all the killed and wounded belonged to this regiment. Major Noah

Ashley, Capt. Jonathan Ingersoll and Richard Campbell, from Westfield, are reported among the dead. It is impossible to give a complete list of those from Westfield who helped, in this and in the previous wars, to destroy the domination of the French and to put an end to the depredations of their savage allies. The following are recorded from Westfield as soldiers for Canada in 1757: William Shepard (afterwards General), Thomas Campbell, Eli Noble, John Larrabee, Seth Root, Simeon Root, William Hitchcock, Richard Falley, Israel Noble, Elisha Martindale, Daniel Hubbard, James Wilson, Gideon Gunn, Shem Kellogg and William Kerr. The two last named were killed and Falley was taken prisoner. It is said that Oliver Root and Ozam Sacket were also in the war and "put up a vote of thanks upon the meeting house door in 1760." Zenas Noble, Aaron Ashley, Peleg Combs, Stephen Ward, Moses Root, A. Jones, Samuel Johnson, Enos Loomis, Nathaniel Church, Joseph Baker, Stephen Saxton, William Patterson and Benjamin Pike enlisted in 1761-2, probably for the expedition against Pontiac. There is no record of the individual sufferings of thousands because of the French and Indian wars. At length, after a series of wars extending over the larger part of a century, in 1760, the French surrendered the province of Canada.

Speaking of this period, Holland, referring to this valley, says:

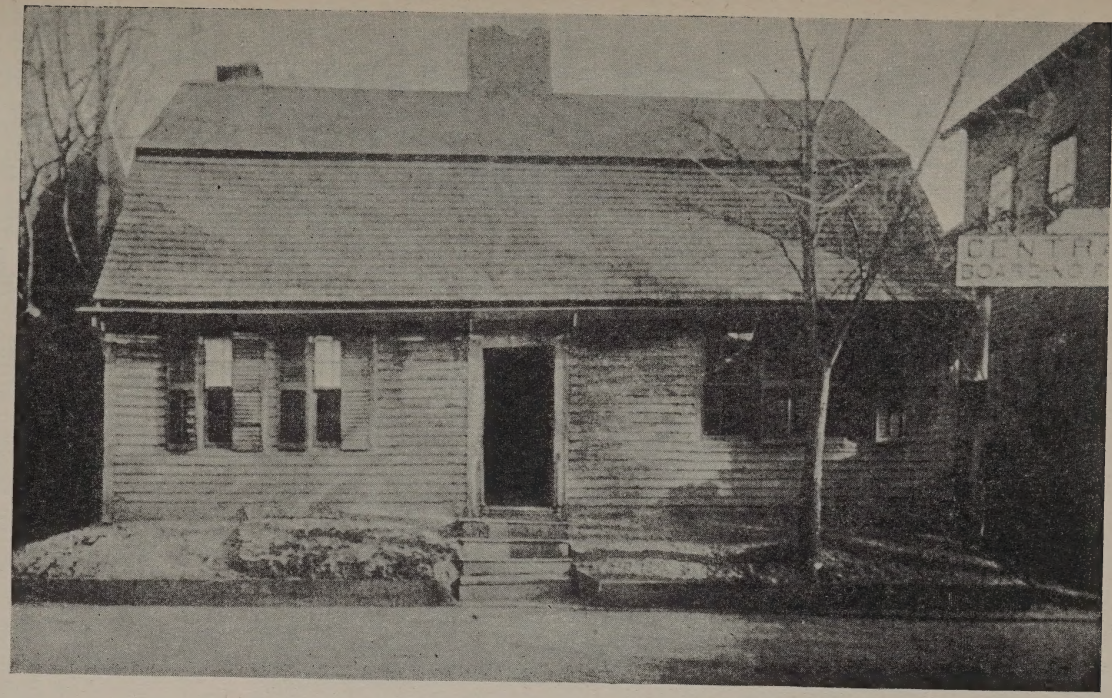
"Children had been born, had grown up to manhood, and descended to old age, knowing little or nothing of peace and tranquillity. Hundreds had been killed, and large numbers carried into captivity. Men, women and children had been butchered by scores. There is hardly a square acre, certainly not a square mile, in the Connecticut valley, that has not been tracked by the flying feet of fear, resounded with the groans of the dying, drunk the blood of the dead, or served as the scene of toils made doubly toilsome by an apprehension of danger that never slept. It was among such scenes and such trials as these that the settlements of Western Massachusetts were planted. It was by these scenes and trials that their sinews were knit to that degree of strength that, when the incubus of war and fear were lifted, they

sprang to those enterprises of peace, which in less than one century have transformed the valley and the Berkshire hills into a garden of beauty, a home of luxury and refinement, an abode of plenty, and a seat of free education and free religion. The joy of victory that spread everywhere over the colonies was great, but the joy of peace was greater. The relief felt on every hand can hardly be imagined now. The long clogged wheels of enterprise moved again, and settlements that had been forsaken were reclaimed, while new ones were commenced. The axe resounded in the forests, and smiling harvests returned once more to be gathered rejoicingly beneath the reign of peace."

EARLY HABITS AND CUSTOMS

The first dwellings of the settlers were very rude—log houses or bank houses, facing the south, so that the bank on the north would protect from cold and allow of underground rooms behind the sunny front rooms. These ground dwellings were sometimes called cellars. The banks that bound the lowlands on the north side of the Westfield river and the meadow terraces are well adapted to such dwellings. Here several seem to have been made, for this side was sometimes known as the north or cellar side. These cellars were not uncommon in other parts of the town. At a town meeting February 4, 1678, during the stress of Philip's war, "there is granted liberty to John Ponder to set a house or celler within the gate by Lieut. Moseley for a while in case he is thrust from his own by reason of troublous times."

As sawmills were built and the increasing means of the settlers made it possible to provide better buildings, log houses gave place to more commodious dwellings. Those of simpler form were one-story houses, having rooms of good size, while the unfinished attic furnished a generous chamber for children, with abundant opportunity for the storage of corn and other grains, for the drying of nuts and for the safekeeping of manifold household goods. The huge stone chimney, built with clay instead of mortar, occupying a large portion of the cellar, and claiming a good share of the house as its right, that it might present in every room a large fireplace, and rising above the



Homestead of Eli Ashley,

Formerly situated on the east side of Elm street, Westfield, Mass., opposite the corner of Elm and Franklin streets. This was the first house erected on Elm street.

ridge of the house with a top square and large as if defying the fiercest storms, was one of the most distinctive features of the earlier colonial houses. The front door opened into a small entry, on the right and on the left of which was a door opening into a front room, one the parlor occasionally used, the other the sitting room. Back of these rooms was the long kitchen, or liv-

Corner cupboard in the house built by Captain William Moseley in 1786

Now owned by his grandsons, Edward and Thomas B. Moseley, Westfield, Mass.

ing room, running the whole length of the house save as it was shortened by "mother's bedroom," a pantry and a closed stairway leading from the kitchen to the attic. The kitchen by doors communicated with all the other rooms of the house and with the woodshed. A side door, in many houses, opening on to the

yard, gave an unhindered view of the fields, and added to the good cheer of the room in summer time.

Larger houses, though of the same general plan, were two stories in height and had four front rooms. The chimney held so large an area that the space for the front hall and angular stairs was often quite limited. The kitchen with its concomitants was usually provided for under a lean-to roof. The Moseley homestead, on Union street, which long ago passed its centennial, is a stately example of this sort of house, though it has a rear ell instead of the lean-to roof.

Another plan, more aristocratic, was that of a two-story house having eight rooms nearly square in the main house, with a generous hall on each floor, running from front to rear. The kitchen was in an ell projecting from one-half of the rear of the main house. As provision was made for heating all the rooms by fireplaces, two chimneys were required in the main house and one in the ell. Such a house when standing on rising ground in an ample yard bordered with Lombardy poplars, originally imported from over the sea, was indeed a stately reminder of the manor houses of old England and of ancestral rank. The mouldings and carvings of the front entrances of these old houses, the chaste mantels, the panelled wainscot and the corner cupboards of the front rooms are much admired.

The finish of the front entrance of the large gambrel-roofed house on Main street, near Noble street, is yet well preserved. This house was long known as Landlord Fowler's house, and later as Harrison tavern.

Burgoyne, with some of his companions, after his defeat at Saratoga, is said, under the convoy of American soldiers, to have slept here one night while on his way from Albany to Boston, hence the house is often called the "Burgoyne house."

The kitchen in these colonial houses, with its long mantel spanning the huge fireplace and oven and with its high-backed settle, that, in zero weather, attempted to wall off the frigid cold in the rear of the room from the torrid heat of the fire, well nourished by wood from four to eight feet in length, was the center of the home life of the household.

Whittier has well described the winter evening fire, as it lighted up the kitchen:

"As night drew on, and, from the crest
Of wooded knolls that ridged the west,
The sun, a snow-blown traveller, sank
From sight beneath the smothering bank,—
We piled, with care, our nightly stack
Of wood against the chimney-back,—
The oaken log, green, huge, and thick,
And on its top the stout back-stick;
The knotty forestick laid apart,
And filled between with curious art,
The ragged brush; then, hovering near,
We watched the first red blaze appear,
Heard the sharp crackle, caught the gleam
On whitewashed wall and sagging beam,
Until the old rude-furnished room
Burst, flower like, into rosy bloom."

The kitchen was in its best array in late autumn, when strings of quartered apples, clusters of red peppers, braids of popcorn vied with crook-necked squashes, bacon, ham, dried beef and sheaves of herbs in adorning the walls.

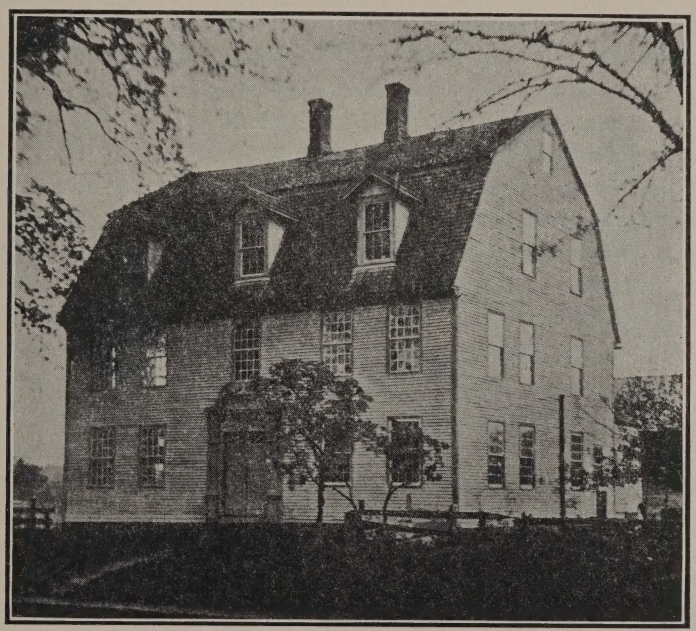
The straight backed chairs seemed to say, "This is no place for lounging," while the tall clock, with its deliberate and solemn tick, seemed to remind of those lines of Young:

"We take no note of time,
But from its loss; to give it then a tongue,
Is wise in man."

The kitchen was indeed a place where these suggestions were heeded. Time was improved. In addition to the usual cooking and cleaning there was soap-making, brewing and dyeing, the making of cloth for the family and the cutting and making of garments. At one end of the long room stood the spinning wheel and the loom. The whir of the one and the rattle and thud of the other made music in the ear of the thrifty housewife. Here the flax which the men had raised, threshed, retted and broken, the women with distaff and spindle wrought into thread to be

woven into linen—some of which woven more than a century ago is among the heirlooms of Westfield homesteads to day—or to be woven with woolen yarn into linsey-woolsey.

Over the mantel hung the gun proved in many a hunt and relied upon as a staunch weapon of defense. On the mantel the little hoard of books, well read because without competitors. There also was the box containing the flint and steel, the tinder and lint wherewith to start a fire, if the fire on the hearth should



Old "Landlord Fowler House," Westfield

go out. When other sources of fire failed, a tramp to some neighbor's house must be taken with tin lantern to bring home the lighted candle.

The kitchen was at times the workshop of the men and boys as well as of the women. During the long evenings shingles were shaved, yokes and other farm implements were fashioned.

Glancing at the table and cupboard, we should notice that pewter and woodenware were in common use. Crockery was

sparingly used by settlers in the seventeenth century. The table was supplied with articles of food from the farm and house garden. The smoke-house and the meat barrels in the cellar furnished a continual supply of meat, alternated with fowl, game, fish and the snow-preserved fresh meats of winter. Boiled dinner, with Indian pudding, was a frequent midday meal and was served cold at supper to workingmen. Wheat bread seems to have been more common in the seventeenth than in the eighteenth century. Rye and corn came to be the common ingredients of bread. Brown bread, composed of two parts Indian meal and one part rye, was largely used. Prof. Shaler of Harvard has well set forth the value of Indian corn to the settlers. He says:

"The success of the first settlements in America was also greatly aided by the fact that the continent afforded them a new and cheaper source of bread in the maize or Indian corn, which was everywhere used by the aborigines of America. It is difficult to convey an adequate impression of the importance of this grain in the early history of America. In the first place, it yields not less than twice the amount of food per acre of tilled land, with much less labor (?) than is required for an acre of small grains; is far less dependent on the changes of the seasons; the yield is much more uniform than that of the old European grains; the harvest need not be made at such a particular season; the crop may with little loss be allowed to remain ungathered for weeks after the grain is ripe; the stalks of the grain need not be touched in the harvesting, the ears alone being gathered; these stalks are of greater value for forage than is the straw of wheat and other similar grains. Probably the greatest advantage of all that this beneficent plant afforded to the early settlers was the way in which it could be planted without ploughing, amid the standing forest trees which had been only deadened by having their bark stripped away by the axe. . . . Its strong roots readily penetrated deep into the soil, and the strong tops fought their way to the light with a vigor which few plants possess. The grain was ready for domestic use within three months from the time of planting, and in four months it was ready for the harvest."

Tea and coffee were long considered rare luxuries in most families. Fortunately, they have taken the place of cider, so long considered needful. Orchards are now reared for better purposes than for the filling of cider barrels for home consumption. In early times, before the settlers had planted orchards or built cider mills, home-brewed beer was a common drink. For many decades, in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, a supply of cider was considered as important as other articles of diet. Charles Francis Adams tells us that "to the end of his life, a large tankard of hard cider was John Adams's morning draught before breakfast; and in sending directions from Philadelphia to Quincy to her agent in 1799, Mrs. Adams takes care to mention that the 'President hopes you will not omit to have eight or nine barrels of good late made cider put up in the cellar for his own particular use.' "

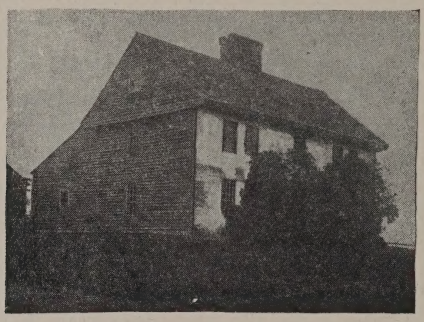
Trumbull, speaking of the meals of these early times, says: "For breakfast, meat was seldom provided, but bread and milk or bread and cider, hasty pudding with milk or molasses, and sometimes porridge or broth, made of peas or beans flavored by being cooked with salt pork or beef, was the usual fare.

"Dinner was deemed the most important, and some kind of meat or fish, with vegetables, was always served. Potatoes were unknown; but turnips, cabbages, beans and a few other vegetables, were used to a considerable extent." Potatoes were introduced into the Connecticut valley about 1720, and were not used as a common article of diet until several years later.

One of the oldest colonial houses, built according to the plans we have noticed, is the Day house, as it is called, on the high land north of the Boston and Albany railroad and west of the trap rock ridge; another is the brick house in Pochassic, for several years the home of Barnum Perry and his family; and another is the Moseley house on the north side of Main street, just east of the junction of Meadow and Main streets. Other houses deserve mention, but these must suffice.

The genealogy connected with each of these houses is interesting. We will speak of those only who have occupied the Moseley house, using an account given by one of the family. In

1677 John Maudsley (or Moseley) removed from Windsor with his wife, Mary Newbury, to Westfield, and purchased the house and store of Mr. Whitney, which thenceforth has been known as their home or the home of their descendants. Mr. Moseley had already proved his valor in battles with the followers of King Philip. Hence, he was warmly welcomed to the stockaded hamlet and chosen lieutenant of the little company of defenders. He was also recorded as one of the seven original members or "foundation men," of the church first organized under Rev. Edward Taylor, in 1677. The sons of "Lieut. John" "struck out" in new paths for themselves. Consider has many descendants in Westfield and elsewhere, one of them, Mrs. Bingham (Sybil Moseley) was among the earliest missionaries to the Sandwich



Elder Ambrose Day House

Islands. "Quartermaster John," as he was called, was another son. He was the father of Col. John Moseley, one of the committee of safety in the war for independence. Owing to his public services, his name often appears in the town and in the state records. While the widow of Joseph (another son) was living in the house, we find the record was made upon the town book that the selectmen had agreed with one John Negro to call the people to meeting by beating the first drum, "against the widow Moseley's house in good weather." This drum beating by John or some one else for about one hundred and fifty years served instead of bell-ringing to promote punctual attendance at church.

When the first meeting-house, near the bridge, over Little river, became inadequate to the needs of the growing town, in

1719, measures were taken to build another. After much discussion and disagreement respecting the site for the new building, the town by vote made Samuel Partridge final arbiter. His decision was that "the place for erecting and setting up the new Meeting House, to be the knowl on Capt. Maudsley's lot on the north side of ye way behind his housing." This meeting-house stood not far from the present southwest corner of the Moseley place on Meadow and Main streets.

In 1749, we find David Moseley, Esq., as he is named in his commission from George II, appointing him magistrate of Hampshire county, occupying the Moseley house. Like many other officers of law and landholders, during the earlier troubles with the mother country, he was known as a tory. Had he lived to feel the injustice of later and more oppressive measures of the home government he would doubtless have helped to swell the unanimous votes passed during the revolutionary struggle, tending to secure independence. He was the first public surveyor of the town. His royal commission is still preserved by his descendants, and also his compass, used in running town and division lines. His book shows the "Two Hundred Acres lying on the Symsbury Road," laid out by him for Jacob Wendell, Esq., of Boston. These acres were afterwards given for the first bell hung in the "coney" on the town meeting house, near the Moseley house. His son, also named David, was a staunch patriot, a selectman for several years, serving in other offices also, and chosen, in 1775, one of "the Committee of Correspondence and Safety to carry out the Plans of the Provincial Congress appointed by the town." While serving in the war for independence he was commissioned colonel of the Third regiment of militia in Hampshire county. In his diary we find:

"24th Day of Sept. 1777. I went to Saratoga in the alarm of the militia; General Burgoyne was Delivered into our hands a prisoner of War the 17th day of Oct. 1777. I returned home the 19th day of Oct. from the camps."

This Captain, afterwards Colonel, Moseley, had charge of at least one tory when a John Ingersoll was examined by the committee and placed under guard.

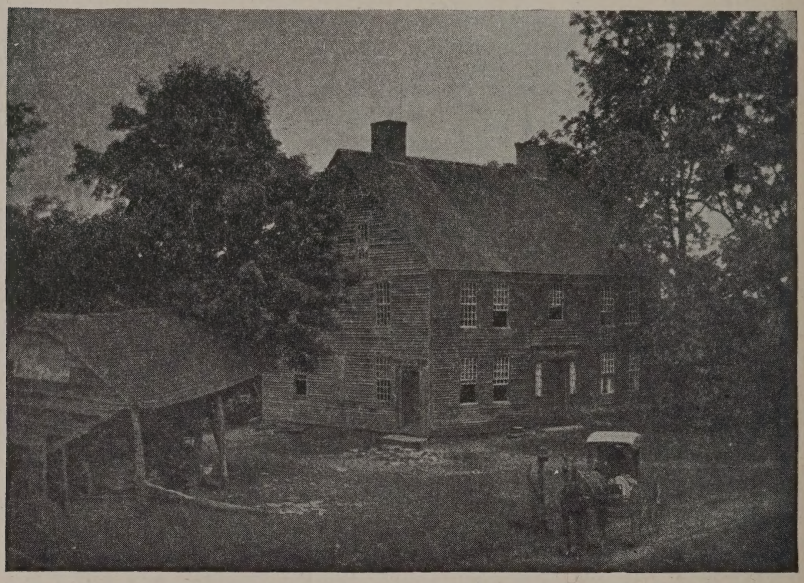
The house built in 1786 by Capt. William Moseley,

Son of Col. David Moseley, a revolutionary ancestor who "was at the surrender of Burgoyne", Oct. 7, 1777. He was the son of David Moseley, Esq., a tory ancestor, having received a commission from George II in 1749. The house is now owned by Edward and Thomas B. Moseley, sons of Col. David Moseley, who was born at this homestead and died Aug. 25, 1871.

Time had made sad inroads on doors and windows "since this old house was new," and about fifty years ago one of the descendants of "Lieut. Moseley from Windsor" made repairs and changes. The huge central chimney, with its wide fireplaces, was taken out and a hall made through the center of the house. The panelled walls were stripped of much of their handiwork and a modern finish substituted. The corner cupboards were removed, windows changed and the decaying doors on the front and east side, with their artistic carvings, curved mouldings and enormous brass knockers, gave place to modern contrivances. Fourteen brides, each bearing the name of Moseley, have been married in the "best room" on the west side of the house, during the more than two hundred years in which the house has passed in the same family from generation to generation. Those born and reared in the Moseley house, joining hands and hearts with others, have built up from time to time new homes, here and elsewhere, far and wide, under the colonial names, Noble, Ingersoll, Root, Sackett, Fowler, Dewey, Taylor and others, as well as the name of Moseley.

Work was the motto of the settlers. Their circumstances compelled persistent industry. Yet they were not as gloomy a people as they are often represented. They made "the wilderness and the solitary place" glad with their good cheer, born of full health. The variety of their work made recreation less a necessity for them than for those of the present time, when division of labor has made so many well nigh parts of the mechanism of a factory. Nor did they lack amusement and recreation. There were training-days, when work was suspended, that the militia might assemble on the "common" and receive instruction and drill. The day of annual muster was another holiday. Old election day was maintained as a holiday long after the election of state officers was transferred from May to November. "Raising day" was anticipated by every boy, as he saw the heavy frame of a building nearing completion, for he knew that the able-bodied men and the boys of the neighborhood would assemble in gladsome mood at the "raising," and feats of strength, skill and courage might be expected. It was the cus-

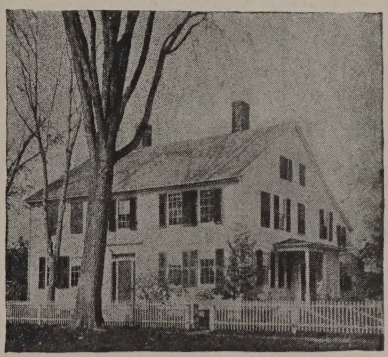
tom to levy the tax for the repair of the roads as a separate tax to be "worked out" under district surveyors. After planting time the surveyors in the several districts summoned men with their teams to put the roads in good condition. Boys, allowed a wage according to their years, mingled with men. Working on the roads was a social affair. Local history, personal reminiscence and mirthful story gave zest to the busy hours. The noon hour, when under some wide, arching tree, each partook of the dinner he had brought, was a time for much discussion of the



Old Washington Tavern

questions of the day. These were very democratic occasions, for the minister and the doctor (though doctors were rare) worked out their tax with others. Then, there were husking parties, dancing, hunting parties, games of ball, in which all might play, being chosen as at evening spelling matches on one side or the other; spinning bees for the girls, and games at neighborhood parties, in which all might engage, that made the colonial houses, illuminated with generous hearth fires, resound with merry-making.

That the large fireplaces were great consumers of fuel is evident from the annual supply of wood necessary for a household. The annual supply of a minister's family is fairly known from church and town records. Mr. Chauncy of Hatfield used from fifty to sixty cords. Mr. Edwards, after 1740, consumed, in Northampton, upwards of seventy loads each year. It has been estimated that one hundred families of Hadley, as late as 1765, when the size of fireplaces was less than a century earlier, consumed not less than three thousand cords annually. Westfield burned as much wood per family as other towns in the county. Sylvester Judd, the historian of Hadley, wrote: "The minister's wood was got on days appointed, and the minister furnished the



Ezra Clapp Hotel, built before 1752

flip and other drink, but not the food." These were high days for young men, and for some not young, in Hadley and in other towns.

It would seem that among other amusements there must have been sleigh rides in winter. Judd tells us that "the first settlers of New England knew nothing about sleds and sleighs, nor did they use them for some years. In Hampshire, wood was sometimes sledded before 1670, but in general it was carted long after that date. For many years logs were conveyed to saw pits and sawmills on wheels, and almost everything was carted." He adds: "There were no sleigh-rides in these towns till after 1730 or 1740." Later, as those now living can testify, this form of

winter amusement was common. Weddings were festive occasions and not infrequently both merry and boisterous.

Rev. John Ballantine, who seems to have made careful entries in his diary of the largess of his people, notes the following articles received on the 16th of October, the day before the marriage of his daughter, Mary, to Capt. John Ashley: "Mrs. Parks, one gallon of rum; Capt. Moseley, two quarts of rum; Deacon Shepard, a leg of mutton; Mrs. Clapp, one quart of rum; Thomas Root, two quarts of brandy; Matthew Noble, flour and suet; Ensign Noble, some butter; Clark King, a pig; Ensign Ingersoll, two quarts of rum; Mrs. Ashley, a loin of mutton and butter; Moseley, a pig and three fowls; A. Weller, some apples; Mrs. Ford, cabbage and potatoes; L. Noble, two fowls; D. Root, two quarts of brandy."

In this list articles are not wanting adapted to stimulate hilarity. If they were placed on the table they would hardly correspond to a modern array of bridal presents.

The bridegroom above named was a resident of Sheffield, and in the time of Shays' rebellion major-general of the state militia. The lineage of the bride, Mary, was restored to Westfield in the person of Jane P. Ashley, her granddaughter, who married William G. Bates in 1830.

The dress of the bride was often as expensive as her circumstances allowed. The "coming out groom and bride" were always expected at the church services on the Sabbath immediately following the wedding. The law of 1647, imposing a fine of £5 for gaining the affections of a girl with intent of marriage, before having obtained permission from her parents or guardians, does not appear to have been applied to any suitor in Westfield or in Hampden county.

Lechford, in his "News from New England," says of funerals in 1642: "At burials, nothing is read, nor any funeral sermon made, but all the neighborhood, or a good company of them, come together by tolling of the bell, and carry the dead solemnly to his grave, and there stand by him while he is buried." The earlier ministers of New England, we are told, refrained from prayers at funerals, because there was in the Bible neither

precept nor example for such prayers. Near the close of the seventeenth century prayers at funerals were not uncommon, and twenty years later Mather tells us that the minister in many towns made a prayer at the house and a short speech at the grave.

The English custom of a bountiful meal at the house of the deceased just after the funeral had justification among the colonists in the fact that the homes of many attending were at a distance. That these meals should be of a festive sort can hardly be excused on the ground that they were a means of allaying grief. The day before the burial of his wife we find Parson Ballantine made the following entries in his diary, showing that his people were mindful of his needs:

Donation Mr. Zachariah Bush,—piece of fresh meat
" " Bohan King,—spare rib;
" " John Phelps. 2 fowls, suet, sugar.
" " Capt. Bush, 2 pieces of fresh meat.
" " Deacon Mather, 2 fowls, biscuit and pie.
" " Mr. Morse, piece of fresh meat.
" " John Atwater, Butler's cake.
" " Dr. Whitney, bottle of cherry rum etc.
" " Mr. Samuel Fowler, bottle of cherry rum.

What Mr. Ballantine bought to supplement these gifts we do not know; but we may believe the supply for the meal that followed the funeral exercises was ample.

The simplicity and the limited means of country people forbade their adoption of many of the extravagant customs of the aristocracy in Boston—customs brought mainly from London. We are told that "in some cases, gloves were lavishly given—700 pairs at one funeral, 1000 pairs at another, and above 3000 pairs and 200 rings at the funeral of A. Faneuil in Boston in 1738. A Boston minister, in 1728, estimated that the rings and gloves which he received at funerals in a year were worth £15."

During King Philip's war many believed that the sufferings the settlers endured were the result of their wickedness. Rev. Solomon Stoddard of Northampton, writing to Increase Mather, says: "I desire that you would speak to the Governor that there

may be some thorough care for a reformation," and among the "many sins grown in fashion" he mentions "intolerable pride in clothes and hair." At the November session of the legislature, in 1675, many sins were noted, with penalties provided for those who yielded to them. Under previous sumptuary laws three Westfield women were "presented," in 1673, for wearing silk contrary to law. In 1676 scores of persons in the Connecticut valley were fined, some for wearing silk in a "flaunting manner," and others for indulging in long hair. Five of these were from Westfield. But then, as now, men admired beautiful dress and the women were not averse, so that the sumptuary laws soon became obsolete.

We quote a paragraph from the history of Pittsfield, as it gives a glimpse of some of the sons and daughters of Westfield as inhabitants of that town. "Still another class of festivities, less generally remembered, were the evening suppers, at which the choicest of substantial country luxuries—from the goose and turkey, down to the pumpkin-pie and nut-cake, not forgetting apples, chestnuts and cider—were served in turn at the houses of circles of friends, who formed a kind of informal club; the most flourishing of which was the Woronokers, composed of immigrants from Westfield, and their descendants—a right hearty and jovial set of men, noted for stalwart frames, vigorous and manly intellects, integrity of character, and devotion to the democratic party."

Holland says that a large portion of the inhabitants of Pittsfield at the time of its incorporation, 1761, were from Westfield.

Meeting-Houses.—We are accustomed to speak of church buildings as churches. The early settlers designated their houses for Sabbath gatherings, meeting-houses, for they were used, whenever they met together, to transact any business requiring the meeting together of the people. Some room in the fort, or "forted house," was probably used for Sabbath meetings by the people of Westfield previous to 1672. In December of that year we find the town voted "that the town will go on with building a meeting house with all convenient speed as may be. The dimensions are as follows;—about thirty-six feet square. [Height

of ceiling] is fourteen feet and for form like the Hatfield meeting house.'' According to tradition, the settlement begun on the north side of the Westfield river, and the settlement at Little river on the Windsor road, strove with each other and with the settlement between the rivers, respecting the location of the meeting house. Each wished the house to be located in its own precincts. After it was decided to build it on the ''fort side,'' not far from the confluence of the rivers, there still was diversity of opinion respecting the place in which it should stand. The record says that ''after solemn looking to God, the lotts were drawn. The lot came forth on the place before Goodman Phelps' or Goodman Gunn's, on the point.''

This first meeting house was probably made of logs and stood on the north side of Main street on the terrace near the confluence of the rivers and a little northwest of the bridge over Little river. A central aisle led from the entrance to the pulpit. On each side of this aisle, and at right angles to it, were the long benches that filled the body of the church. On the sides of the church were benches perhaps at right angles to those filling the body of the house. These were the flank seats.

As the little community increased in numbers more seats were needed. By vote of the town, May 10, 1703, ''Gallareyes'' were built on each side of the meeting house. The end gallery opposite the pulpit may have been built when the church was built.

The body seats decreased in dignity from front to rear. The dignity of other seats was determined by vote of the town acting upon a report of a committee previously appointed. Change in seats of the church required a new dignifying of seats.

At a town meeting held the same year that the side galleries were put in, among other matters, it was voted ''to build pews in ye meeting house where ye flank seats now stand.'' It was also ''voted that the fore pew is in Dignity between the fore seats in ye body and ye Table and the second pew to be in Dignity betown ye first and second seats in ye body; and the fore Gallary is accounted to be in Dignity between ye second and third seats in ye body; and the side fore seats in ye Gallary to be in Dignity

between the third and forth in ye body and ye second seats in fore Gallary to be in dignity between ye fifth and sixth seats in ye body; and the Alley seats in ye Gallary to be in Dignity with the sixth seats in ye body; and ye second seats in the side Gallary to be in between the sixth and seventh seats in ye body."

It was also "voted yt Capt. Phelps, Sergt Root, Nathl Bancroft, Saml Ashley & Thomas Noble Junr, are chosen to seat persons in the meeting house."

If the town concurred with the report of the committee, as was the usual custom, there was no seating anew for some years, until a change of population made a new seating necessary.

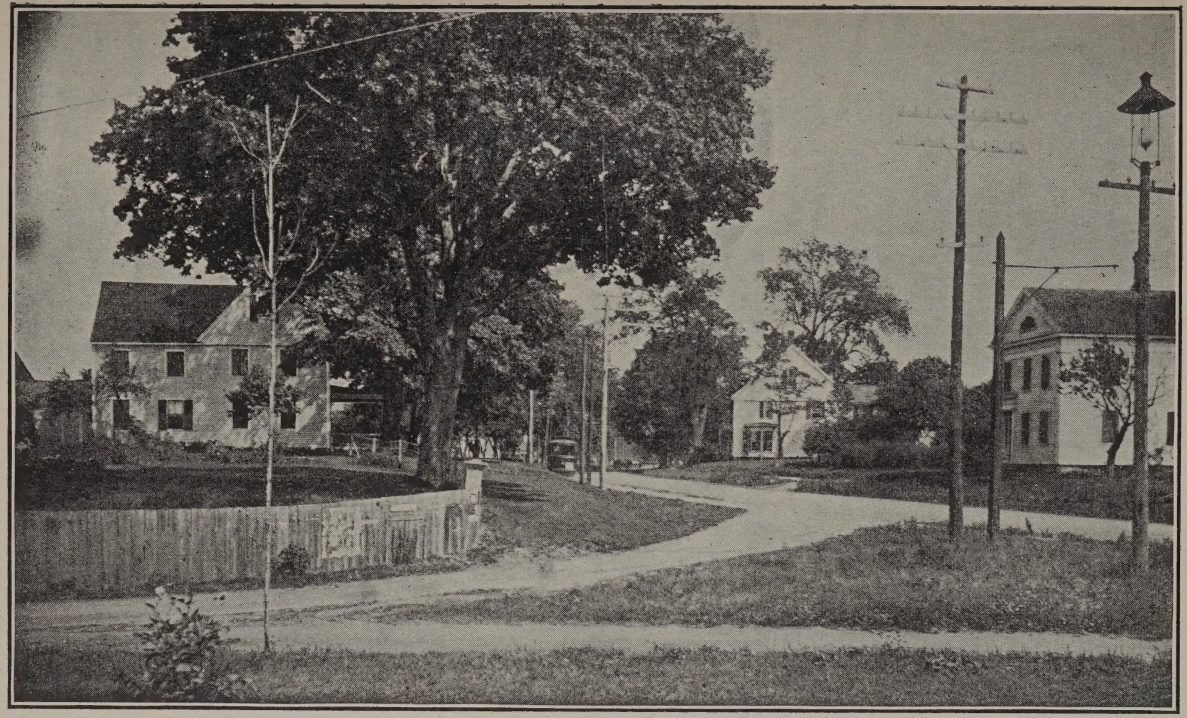
The general rules for seating guiding the seating committee were enunciated at times by vote of the town and were quite uniform. December 10, 1722, upon the completion of the second meeting-house (the first being at that time inadequate), which stood on Main street, just east of Meadow street, the seating committee was ordered "to seat by age and estate only, and that so much estate as any man's list is advanced by negroes shall be excluded and cast out." Also that the seating should be done "by nine men in three distinct companies, and so the major part of them agreeing to stand; and that no man shall be seated for more than only a third part of what estate he hath by hire or by marrying a widow."

At a new seating several years later the "seators" were enjoined by vote of the town "to observe that three pounds on his (one's) list shall be accounted equal to one year of age, and to seat according to age, estate, and qualifications according to their best judgment." We cannot tell what heartburnings this seating caused

"When in order due and fit
As by public vote directed, ranked and classed the people sit;
. . . Clerkly squire before the clown
From the brave coat lace-embroidered to the gray frock shading down."

In 1772 it was voted to new seat the church by the "Auction Rule." Our readers are acquainted with this method.

The second church building, of which we have spoken, was in accordance with a vote passed November 17, 1719, "to build a



Old Mosely House

The rear L is probably new. The site of the second town church building was about where the fence is. The church was built in 1720.

meeting house barn fation with a bell coney upon the middle of it, fifty two foots in length and forty one foots in breadth." "Barn fation" meant having two roofs and gables. The gables are said to have been on the north and south ends. The bell, for which two hundred acres of land were exchanged, took the place of the drum-call to meeting, and was rung by a rope reaching to the middle of the church floor. This building was in size a little larger than the main building of the Westfield atheneum, which is forty-six by forty-two feet.

The raising of this building was a town affair, and is a famous example of such occasions. No one has chronicled the doings of the day; we can only quote from the town records the preparatory votes.

June 6, 1720, "it was voated by the town that they would begin to raise the meeting house on WednesDay morning, at 2 hours by the sun in the morning, the 8th day of this instant June, (assembling) to work, at the beat of the drum every morning, until it is done."

"It was also voted that all men belonging to the town shall assist in the work of raising the meeting house, from seventeen years of age and upwards, on pain and penalty of three shillings per day for every day's neglect during the time of raising, except all such as shall make a satisfactory excuse unto the comitey yt have the charge of ye Mater. It was also voted that the comitey shall have liberty to prepare four or five barels of beer at the Town's Charge for that concern above mentioned and that Captain Phelps, Deacon Nolles & Deacon Ashley should go and desire Mr. Taylor to come to the place of raising the meeting-house then & there at the time apointed to seek to God for his guide and protection in the work of raising."

Whether the raisers needed protection from timbers, or from beer, is indefinite. This vote leads us to infer that it was too early as yet for the English custom of beer drinking to yield to the drinking of cider, which became general before the close of the century. That long seats filled the body of the house in this building as in the old is evident from a later vote "to take out all the long seats in the body of the meeting-house and build or

make pews in their places." In the afternoon of the same day the vote was reconsidered and lost. Fifty years ago in attending meetings in the conference room of the Congregational church the women occupied the seats at the minister's left and the men those at the right. This custom seems to have been an old English custom, still strictly enforced in some of the churches of England and maintained in Westfield in the long seats of the earlier church buildings.

That the church buildings had a men's side and a women's side is evident from the vote of the town in January, 1748-49, when it was voted "to build a pew for the minister's wife and family, the woman's side of the house." Pews restored the family in the church seats.

It appears that for more than one hundred and fifty years the people of Westfield attended church without any means of warming the church building. An ample force of "tithing men" was maintained all the while, who, according to the vote of the town, were to "have full power to take especial care that all disorders in the meeting house, especially upon the Sabbath day, are stilled, and to give such correction that they shall think fit, unto the boys, to keep them in order." It is not strange that the boys in the gallery were restive under the long sermons, and were sometimes noisy as they attempted to warm their feet by striking their boots together. When it was first proposed in town meeting that the Congregational society should raise money for stoves the vote of the moderator decided the tie vote in the affirmative; but a reconsideration followed and reference to a committee to report. December, 1827, in the third meeting-house, to be described hereafter, the innovation, so long dreaded by many, came. The town voted that the "selectmen provide at the expense of the Congregational society of this town, two stoves together with pipes, not to exceed in am't 80 dollars."

William G. Bates, in his "Pictures of Westfield," says: "We cannot conclude, without referring to an incident, in those times, strongly illustrating the power of the imagination. 'The meeting-house' was then unwarmed. There was no fireplace or stove in it, and no provision for heat, except a hot brick, or soap-stone, or a

foot-stove. There were, besides, no sidewalks, as we have now; and the article of overshoes was confined to a few persons. The congregation used to wade 'to meeting,' sit with wet feet during a long sermon, and then hurry home to those restoring influences, which so effectually guarded against colds. The project was agitated, of warming 'the meeting-house.' It met with a furious opposition. Dr. Atwater was one of the innovators; yet even his opinions could not dispel the dread of stove-heat. At last [many years after the death of Mr. Atwater], two stoves were put in. Some said, 'Oh how comfortable!' Said others, 'It makes me faint !' On the second Sunday, owing to a neglect to provide fuel, no fires were built. But the stoves were there! One lady, of Court street, who was annoyed on the *first* Sunday, was still more annoyed on the second. She at first resorted to the reviving fan. She brandished it furiously, but its breezes could not cool that odious and distressing stove-heat. She untied her bonnet-strings, threw off her shawl, and opened her cloak; but the stove-heat increased upon her. Unable longer to sustain the fury of the Nebuchadnezzarean furnace, she rushed down the broad aisle, and sought relief from the internal heat in an atmosphere of 20 degrees below zero. It may readily be imagined, that good old Parson Knapp was seized with a fit of coughing about that time, and that the congregation wondered, how two cold stoves could produce such an inflammation in only one person."

The relation of the ministers of early New England to their people is vividly portrayed by McMaster. "High as the doctors stood in the good graces of their fellow-men, the ministers formed a yet more respected class of New England society. In no other section of the country had religion so firm a hold on the affections of the people. Nowhere else were men so truly devout, and the minister held in such high esteem. It had, indeed, from the days of the founders of the colony been the fashion among New Englanders to look to the pastor with profound reverence, not unmingled with awe. He was not to them as other men were. He was the just man made perfect; the oracle of Divine will; the sure guide to truth. The heedless one who absented himself from

the preaching on a Sabbath was hunted up by the tithing man, was admonished severely, and if he still persisted in his evil ways, was fined, exposed in the stocks, or imprisoned in the cage.

. . . . . .

"In such a community the authority of the reverend man was almost supreme. To speak disrespectfully concerning him, to jeer at his sermons, or to laugh at his odd ways, was sure to bring down on the offender a heavy fine. His advice was often sought on matters of state, nor did he hesitate to give, unasked, his opinion on what he considered the arbitrary acts of the high functionaries of the province. In the years immediately preceding the war, the power of the minister in matters of government and politics had been greatly impaired by the rise of that class of laymen in the foremost rank of which stood Otis, Hancock and Samuel Adams. Yet his spiritual influence was as great as ever. He was still a member of the most learned and respected class in a community by no means ignorant. He was a divine and came of a family of divines. Not a few of the preachers who witnessed the revolution, could trace descent through an unbroken line of ministers, stretching back from son to father for three generations, to some canting, psalm-singing Puritan, who bore arms with distinction on the great day at Naseby, or had prayed at the head of Oliver's troops, and had, at the restoration, when old soldiers of the Protector were turning their swords into reaping-hooks and their pikes into pruning-knives, come over to New England to seek liberty of worship not found at home. Such a man had usually received a learned education at Harvard or at Yale, and would, in these days, be thought a scholar of high attainments. Of the men who Sunday after Sunday preached to the farmers and blacksmiths of the petty villages, one had explored the treasures of Hebrew literature, another was an authority on matters of Greek grammar, while a third added to his classical acquirements a knowledge of metaphysics and philosophy. His narrowmindedness and sectarianism, his proneness to see in the commonest events of daily life manifestations of Divine wrath, his absurd pedantry, his fondness for scraps of Latin, may well seem laughable. Yet, bigoted as he was, the views he held and the

doctrines he preached would by his great-grandfather have been despised as latitudinarian. Compared with Cotton or Hooker, a New England minister of 1784 had indeed made vast strides toward toleration. He was a very different man from the fanatics who burned Catholics at the stake, who drove out the Quakers, who sent Roger Williams to find an asylum among the Indians of Rhode Island, and sat in judgment on the witches of Salem and Andover. In the general advance from ignorance toward knowledge, the whole line was going forward."

Speaking of the minister just after the war of the revolution, McMaster says: "When at last the independence the minister so much wished was achieved, he found himself, with all his neighbors, in the depth of poverty. His stipend, which had once been paid with punctuality to the last pistareen, was now delayed till long after the day of payment, and often consisted of barrels of turnips, bushels of corn, sacks of beans and flitches of bacon. Patches appeared on his homespun suit, and in extreme need he betook himself in his moments of leisure to teaching school. His home was turned into a seminary for half a dozen boys, whom he undertook, for a miserable pittance, to board, lodge, and fit for college. Yet his dignity and self-complacency were never for a moment laid aside. He had succeeded his father in the pastorship of the little white meeting-house, and he never left his charge till he was carried out to be laid away in the shade of the elm and chestnut trees in the burying ground beside the church.

"His sermon was the one event of the week. There were no concerts, no plays, no lectures, none of the amusements which in the great towns like Boston, drew away the thoughts from religion. On a Sabbath the whole village turned out in force with note book and pencil to take down the text and so much of the discussion as they could, and, when the services were over, drew up along the aisle to let the great man and his family pass out first. Nor were his discourses altogether undeserving such marks of distinction. . . . In truth, of the writers who, up to the peace, and for many years after, put forth treatises, arguments, and expositions on metaphysical themes, scarcely one can

be named who was not a native of New England, and a pastor of a New England church."

Town Ministers.—The earlier ministers in Westfield were ministers of the town, selected by authority of the town and paid by town appropriations. March 19, 1666, the town appropriated a lot of twelve acres for the minister. According to the account of Rev. Edward Taylor, written a few years later:

"Westfield, then Warronnokee, coming to be an English plantation, had at first Mr. John Holyoake, son of that Godly Captain Elizur Holyoake of Springfield, to dispense ye word of life amongst them Ano Dmi 1667, about half a year; but in ye beginning of winter following, he, as finding ye ministry of the word too heavie for him, desisted; from which time till ye beginning of winter 1668 they had no minister."

Springfield was still recognized as the parent colony. Cooperating with a committee at Springfield, it was voted, in 1668, "that Capt. Cook shall go into the Bay to procure a minister." The record of this quest is wanting, but he probably obtained Rev. Moses Fisk, son of a minister of the church at Chelmsford, for he served as minister three years. They then tried to obtain a Mr. Adams from Dedham, but failed, finding him "not as yet movable from ye collidge."

Mr. Edward Taylor was the next minister sought and obtained. He was the minister selected by the town soon after its organization. The town, including every man, woman and child within its borders, was his parish. For more than half a century, during its early formative period, he was the religious, the educational, and, in large degree, the civil leader of the town. An outline of his life cannot fail to present facts of importance relating to the early history of the town. A letter by one of his descendants, Henry W. Taylor, Esq., of Canandaigua, to William G. Bates and dated October 1, 1869, gives some facts pertaining to the early life of Rev. Edward Taylor. From this we quote:

"He was born in England, educated for the ministry, studied seven years in one of their universities; but the ejection of 2,000 dissenting clergymen in 1662, and the persecutions which that class of Christians suffered, induced him to a voluntary ex-

ile. It seems he was then an ardent anti-monarchist, and his early writings are said to breathe, in no doubtful terms, his strong aversion to the rulings of the existing dynasty. He was, through his whole life, a most voluminous writer, keeping a diary of the running events of his life, and recording things of passing interest. He left a large number of written folio volumes, and he was in the habit of transcribing, with his own hand, the books which were loaned to him by his friend, Judge Sewall of Boston. Mr. Taylor also studied medicine; and during his life was accustomed to minister as well to the diseases of the body, as of the soul. He also gave attention to the study of natural history, and some of his compositions were published in the scientific literature of the day."

The description of Mr. Taylor's voyage across the Atlantic his residence in Cambridge and his entering upon the work of the ministry in Westfield we quote from his diary:

"Anno Domini 1668. April 22, being Lord's day, between ten and eleven o'clock at night, I came for sea, taking boat at Execution Dock, Wapping. They got to the Downs, May 1, and we are forced to tarry for the winds. I sent a letter to London and another to Sketchley. May 3, I had a sad forenoon, but toward evening the ship-master sent for me, and enjoined me to go to prayer with them. May 14, against Dover. I sent a letter to my brother Richard. May 15, against the Isle of Wight. May 20, against the Lisard. Lord's day, May 24, I then being put to exercise spoke from John 3d, 3d. May 31, Lord's day, wind west. I was very sick, so that I could not perform the duties of the day. June 7, our latitude is forty-three degrees. These two last days we sailed well nigh 150 leagues. I being somewhat better in health than before, did exercise from and apply the doctrine that before I approved. June 13, we exercised from Isaiah 3d, 11th. June 18, our latitude 41 degrees, longitude 51 degrees. After dinner I read the 4th chapter of John, in Greek. Lord's day, June 21, I approved the doctrine I delivered the Lord's day before. Lord's day, June 28, I exercised from the words, "For the reward of their hands shall be given them," Isaiah 3d, 11th. July 2d, sounded 50 fathoms. July 4th, thick fog; seeing land

on both hands, Plymouth on the left and Salem on the right, towards sun-setting, about five o'clock we saw the Island in our passage up to Boston. About three o'clock on Lord's day, July 5th, in the morning we came to shore. July 23d I was admitted into the college, pupil under Mr. Thomas Graves, *Sir* Fellow in a great, yet civil class. I continued there three years and a quarter, all which time I was college butler. I proposed to lay down my place at the commencement. The President by his incessant request and desires prevailed with me to tarry in it, as for three years before; but after a quarter's trial he (I) was invited by Mr. Thomas Flint of Braintree to come and study with him. He (I) went in 1671, but soon returned and settled in the college, and was instituted scholar of the house the 16th day of November, 1671; but the 17th being quarter day, Thomas Dewey a messenger from Westfield on Connecticut river, to the Bay to get a minister for the people, being by eight or nine elders, met at the lecture at Boston, directed to myself, came to me with a letter from Mr. Increase Mather; and whom, for answer, I referred to the Rev. President Chauncey and Fellows; and finding Mr. Danforth for it, Mr. Oakes indifferent, rather advising to it, the President altogether against it."

At this time the President and Fellows wanted to retain Mr. Taylor for a Fellow. But Mr. Danforth the Chief Magistrate advised, and did on the 18th advise with Mr. Increase Mather and Mr. Flint. Their advice was positive for going to Westfield.

"Nov. 27, I set out with Mr. Dewey, and arrived at Westfield Dec. 1. On Lord's day I preached to them from Matthew 3d, 2d—my first sermon, Dec. 3, 1671.

"My going to Westfield with Mr. Dewey, was a great part of the way, by markd trees: I arrived and lodged the first night at Captain Cook's, in the little village."

The Westfield settlement was small when Mr. Taylor came into it; the cloud of King Philip's war was gathering about to burst in devastation and slaughter upon the scattered towns; Westfield seemed especially exposed to attack, being the westernmost settlement. It seemed to be no time to organize churches and provide for the needs of a fixed population. However hope-

Westfield Town Farm

ful the outlook, when Mr. Taylor found his way with Mr. Dewey on their horses through the forest from Cambridge to Westfield, times soon changed for the worse, and whether this outpost of western advance could be maintained, was soon a very grave question.

But love is not bound by prudential considerations. Mr. Taylor was winning the affections of a worthy woman, who had already won his heart. By what sacreligious hands so touching and fulsome evidence of his attachment as a love letter, written not long before his marriage, should have been deposited among the collections of the Connecticut historical society, we cannot tell. Yet it is there and we submit a copy of it, as transcribed by his great-grandson:

"WESTFIELD, Mass., 8th day of the 7th month, 1674.

"MY DOVE:—I send you not my heart, for that I hope is sent to Heaven long since, and unless it has awfully deceived me it hath not taken up its lodgings in any one's bosom on this side the royal city of the Great King; but yet the most of it that is allowed to be layed out upon any creature doth safely and singly fall to your share. So much my post pigeon presents you with here in these lines. Look not (I entreat you) on it as one of love's hyperboles. If I borrow the beams of some sparkling metaphor to illustrate my respects unto thyself by, for you having made my breast the cabinet of your affections as I yours mine, I know not how to offer a fitter comparison to set out my love by, than to compare it unto a golden ball of pure fire rolling up and down my breast, from which there flies now and then a spark like a glorious beam from the body of the flaming sun. But alas! striving to catch these sparks into a love letter unto yourself, and to gild it with them as with a sun beam, find, that by what time they have fallen through my pen upon my paper, they have lost their shine and fall only like a little smoke thereon instead of gilding them. Wherefore, finding myself so much deceived, I am ready to begrudge my instruments, for though my love within my breast is so large that my heart is not sufficient to contain it, yet they can make it no more room to ride into, than to squeeze it up betwixt my black ink and white paper. But know that it is the coarsest part that is couchant there, for the finest is too

fine to clothe in any linguist and huswifry, or to be expressed in words, and though this letter bears but the coarsest part to you, yet the purest is improved for you. But now, my dear love, lest my letter should be judged the lavish language of a lover's pen, I shall endeavor to show that conjugal love ought to exceed all other love. 1st, appears from that which it represents, viz.: The respect there is betwixt Christ and his church, Eph. 5th, 25th, although it differs from that in kind; for that is spiritual and this human, and in degree, that is boundless and transcendent, this limited and subordinate; yet it holds out that this should be cordial and with respect to all other transcendent. 2d, Because conjugal love is the ground of conjugal union, or conjugal sharing the effects of this love, is also a ground of this union. 3d, From those Christian duties which are incumbent on persons in this state as not only a serving God together, a praying together, a joining in the ruling and instructing their family together, which could not be carried on as it should be without a great degree of true love, and also a mutual giving each other to each other, a mutual succoring each other in all states, ails, grievances; and how can this be when there is not a love exceeding all other love to any creature? And hereby if persons in this state have not love exceeding all love, it's with them for the most part as with the strings of an instrument not tuned up, when struck upon makes but a jarring, harsh sound. But when we get the wires of an instrument equally drawn up, and rightly struck upon, sound together, make sweet music whose harmony doth enravish the ear; so when the golden strings of true affection are struck up into a right conjugal love, thus sweetly doth this state then harmonize to the comfort of each other and to the glory of God when sanctified. But yet, the conjugal love must exceed all other, yet it must be kept within bounds, for it must be subordinate to God's glory; the which that mine may be so, it having got you in its heart, doth offer my heart with you in it as a more rich sacrifice into God through Christ, and so it subscribeth me, Your true love till death,

EDWARD TAYLOR.

"This for my friend and only beloved Miss Elizabeth Fitch at her father's house in Norwich."

Miss Fitch was the daughter of Rev. James Fitch, one of the original proprietors, and the first clergyman settled in Norwich, Conn. Mr. Taylor was married to Miss Fitch before the close of the year.

During Philip's war he and his bride shared the toils, the privations, the anxieties and the heartrending sorrows of the colonists. Every night, for many months, he with his wife and others repaired to the fort, one of the forted houses of which mention is often made in the town records, and every night the watch was set to guard the encircling palisades and give notice if the enemy approached. In the midst of the war, as we have seen, the central authority of the colonies urged the settlers to abandon the town and remove to Springfield. The stout reply of the little settlement we have given. The framer of this reply was the young minister, whose heart was with the people and whose patriotic determination fitted him for leadership in "times that tried men's souls."

But the terrible years of Philip's war wore away. Westfield had been saved from the fire and slaughter that drove the settlers of Deerfield and of Northfield from their homes, though several of the people of Westfield had fallen victims "to ye rage of ye enemy." A brighter future dawned. Steps were taken to establish a church and to install Mr. Taylor.

The letters inviting a council bore the date of July, 1679. August 27 was the day for the assembling of the council. The day is described as the last fourth day of the sixth month. This is in accord with the ecclesiastical year, old style, which began the year with the first of March. The council, we are told, "consisted of Rev. Solomon Stoddard of Northampton, Mr. Strong, ruling elder, and Capt. Aaron Cook and Lieut. Clark, messengers; Rev. John Russell of Hadley, and Lieut. Smith and Mr. Younglove, messengers; Rev. Pelatiah Glover of Springfield, teaching elder and I. Holyoke, Dea. Burt and Mr. Parsons, messengers; and one messenger from Meriden, Conn., the pastor being detained by sickness; there were present also, as guests, the Rev. Samuel Hooker of Farmington, Conn., and the 'Worshipful Maj. John Pynchon' of Springfield. The council assisted in organ-

izing the church, consisting of the following members:—Edward Taylor, John Maudsley (Moseley), Samuel Loomis, Isaac Phelps, from the church in Windsor; Josiah Dewey and John Ingersoll from Northampton, and John Root from Farmington, Conn. The council then proceeded in accordance with the expressed wish of the church to ordain Mr. Taylor as pastor."

Mr. Taylor, by study of medicine, had prepared himself to care for the bodies as well as the souls of his charge. He was much beloved and respected by the people of the town. However severe the stress of war, however straitened their circumstances, the town records show their readiness to vote his full salary.

Mr. Taylor, like other country ministers, was a farmer. His people could not help him to write sermons, they could help him in his field work. It seems to have been the custom for his parishioners to render him voluntary aid in haying and harvest time. There is a vote on record providing such aid and also requiring the women of the town to assist Mrs. Taylor in spinning. When Mr. Taylor was advanced in life, the town increased his salary one-third. With filial tenderness they provided by abundant gifts for his table on Thanksgiving and other festive occasions.

One of his daughters married Isaac Stiles, whose son became president of Yale college. President Stiles made these notes of Mr. Taylor: "He was an excellent classical scholar, being master of three learned languages, a great historian, and every way a learned man. He had a steady correspondence with Judge Sewall of Boston, who duly communicated to him all the transactions in the assembly, and occurrences in the nation." "He was a vigorous advocate of Oliver Cromwell, and of civil and religious liberty. He was an incessant student." "A man of small stature, but firm; of quick passions, yet serious and grave. Exemplary in piety, and for a sacred observance of the Lord's day."

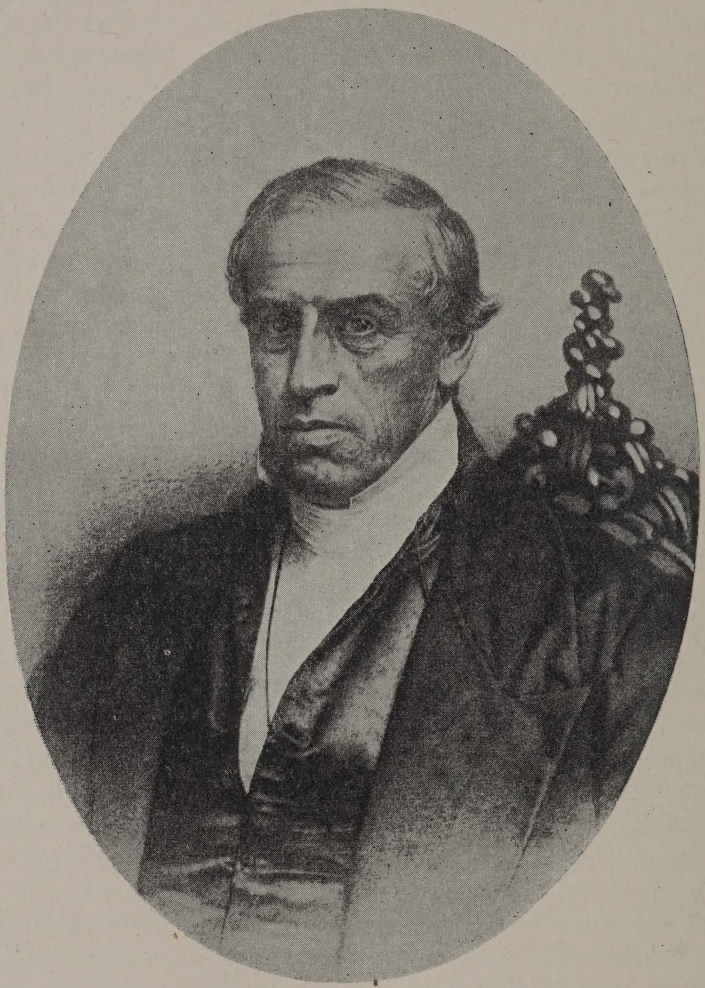
For many years he was the only physician in Westfield and for many miles around. Some of his medical, as well as his theological books, he transcribed. Natural history was hardly recog-

nized as a school study, yet he accumulated no little knowledge of plants, minerals and animals. He continued to minister to his people fifty-seven and one-half years, preaching regularly till within a few years of his death in 1729, at the age of eighty-seven.

Mr. Nehemiah Bull succeeded Mr. Taylor. He, if not eccentric, was a man of marked individuality. He died in 1740, in the thirty-ninth year of his age and the fourteenth of his ministry. Mr. David Parsons for a time supplied the pulpit, then Rev. John Ballantine began his life-long pastorate replete with toil. He died in 1776, aged sixty, having discharged the duties of a pastor for thirty-five years. Dr. Lathrop, for sixty-five years pastor of the church at West Springfield, says of him: "He was blessed with superior abilities, a clear understanding, a capacious mind and a solid judgment." "His ministerial life was a useful pattern to his brethren, and his Christian life was an instructive copy to his people."

Rev. Noah Atwater was the next pastor. He left a tutorship at Yale and proved himself a very scholarly and efficient educational and religious leader. During his pastorate the plan of an academy was formed, a charter obtained, a fund collected, a finely proportioned building erected and the fourth academy in the state, the only one in Western Massachusetts, began its successful career. Mr. Atwater always prepared sermons in advance of the immediate demand, visited every family frequently, before the academy was opened trained young men for college, and largely increased the numbers and the efficiency of the church. He was no common man, and, during the twenty years of his ministry, he evidently produced a deep impression upon the people of the town. He was a man of unceasing energy and was profoundly respected by his people. At the close of the twentieth year of his ministry, taking for his text, "Having therefore obtained help of God I continue unto this day," he delivered his last sermon November 22, 1801.

As the meeting-house was too small for the population of the town, now numbering upwards of two thousand, a movement was begun to secure another. At an adjourned meeting, June,



Emerson Davis, D. D.

1803, it was voted "to build the meeting house by sale of pews." It was also voted that the committee should "prepare a plan of a meeting house, copies of same to be distributed in the several parts of the town, that they may have opportunity to inspect the same, and which plan the said committee are to lay before the town."

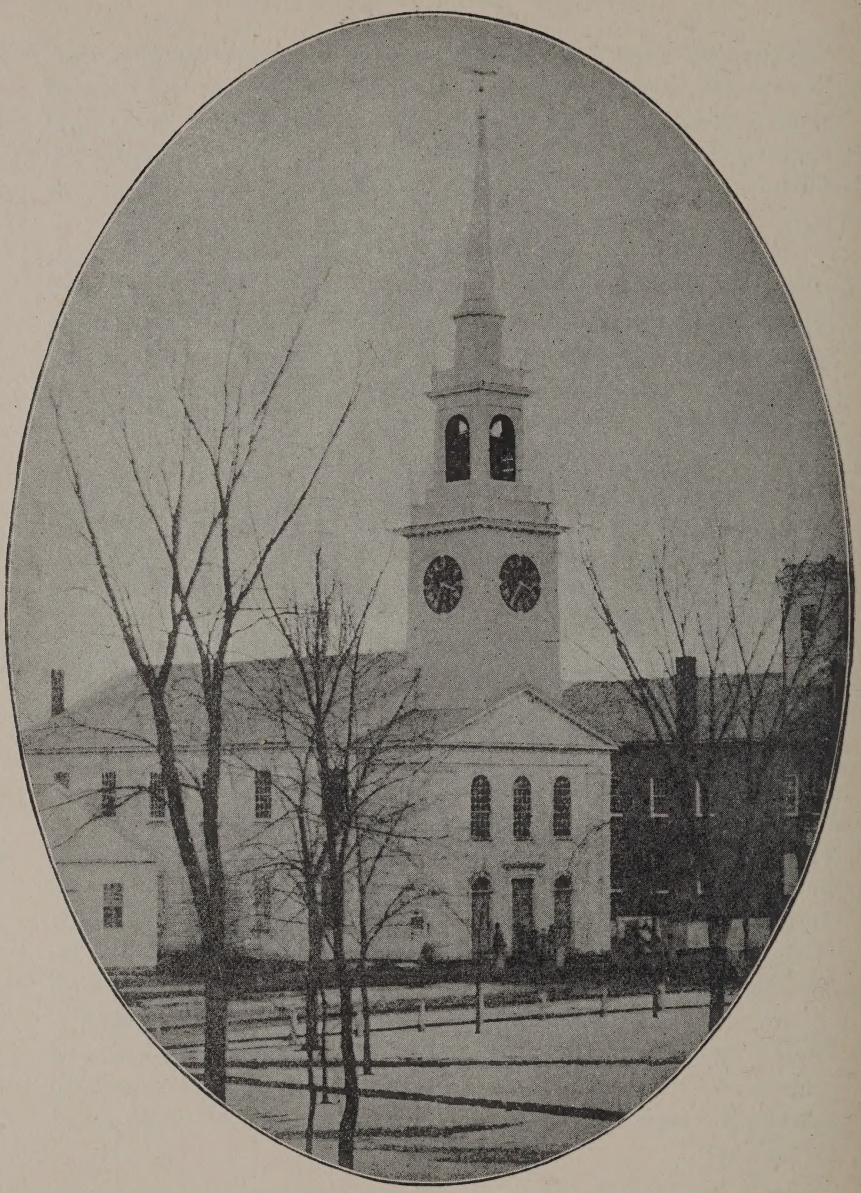
After the plan was agreed upon, it was voted, December 21, 1803, that the committee should "ascertain the exact length and bigness of each stick of timber that shall be wanted in building said house, and put the same up at vendue at the lowest bidder."

January 25, 1804, it was found that seventy-five pews had been bid off, by which $6,019.50 had been pledged toward building the meeting-house. The town then voted that in consideration "of fifteen pews and the galleries to the use of the town, they will complete, finish, and forever keep in repair the said house." This was the last town meeting-house; this, as we shall see, was at length transferred to the Congregational church and society.

October 26, 1803, the town chose a committee to make arrangements on the occasion of settling Mr. Isaac Knapp. He was the last town minister, though his successor during the greater part of his pastorate discharged the functions of a town minister.

Mr. Emerson Davis, a graduate of Williams college and for a time tutor in the college, after fourteen years' service in Westfield academy as preceptor, became pastor of the Congregational church, in 1836, as colleague of Mr. Knapp. On the thirtieth anniversary of his settlement he preached a sermon reviewing the history of the church and recalling some of his own experiences. On the following Friday night he died suddenly, having had almost uninterrupted health during his long life of remarkable usefulness. No later minister may ever expect to hold such paternal relations as Dr. Davis to all the residents of the town.[1]

[1]The present pastor, who has himself served twenty-three years, in his bicentennial sermon delivered in 1879, says; "It is a remarkable fact in these days of short pastorates and unsettled supplies, that the first six pastors of this church began and ended their ministerial work here, and were laid to rest by their grateful and loving people. Their average term of service is thirty-two years."



Third building of the town church, Westfield. Dedicated Jan. 1, 1806

It stood on the site of the present First Congregational Church

Dr. Davis was no ordinary man. He was largely endowed with common sense and was noted for his industry, his sound judgment, his manly sincerity and his devotion to his pastoral duties. The town was his parish. He was ever the thoughtful and wise counsellor both in secular and in religious affairs.

His preaching, simple, straightforward and free from unnecessary words, was always practical and instructive. No one can estimate the value of his fourteen years' service as preceptor of the academy and his thirty years service as pastor to the people of Westfield. He was by nature a leader of men. He exerted a strong influence in the earlier councils of the state board of education, of which he was a member, and in all the progressive educational movements of his time. He was a member of the school committee twenty-five years, was the godfather of the state normal school and at the time of his death was vice-president of Williams college.

In 1856 the First Congregational church had become so large that from it was formed the Second Congregational church. The present church building of this church was completed in 1861. The same year the First Congregational church completed its present building (the fourth in order of succession) on the site of the third town meeting-house. Several years later the tall and beautiful steeple of this church was plunged into the body of the church by a terrific gale; a safer but less impressive steeple has been erected. The later pastors of the First Congregational church are:

Rev. Elias H. Richardson, 1867-1872.
Rev. Adoniram J. Titsworth, 1873-1878.
Rev. John H. Lockwood, 1879 to the present.

WESTFIELD REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

The parliament of Great Britain, March 7, 1774, ordered the port of Boston closed to commerce and the custom-house, courts of justice and other public offices to be removed to Salem. Salem refused to take them from Boston. The people of Marblehead offered the merchants of Boston the free use of their wharves. Other oppressive acts of parliament followed, affect-

ing not only Boston, but Massachusetts, and General Gage, with his soldiers, was on the ground to enforce the acts. On the first of June the port bill took full effect. The ruin of trade resulted in the ruin of fortunes and abject poverty. "All classes," says Lossing, "felt the scourge of the oppressor, but bore it with remarkable fortitude. They were conscious of being right, and everywhere tokens of the liveliest sympathy were manifested. Flour, rice, cereal grains, fuel and money were sent to the suffering people from the different colonies; and the city of London, in its corporate capacity, subscribed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the poor of Boston."

May 25, 1774, a town meeting was called "to see what answer the town will make to a letter received from the Town Clerk of Boston setting forth the sore calamities the town labors under." Eldad Taylor, Elisha Parks, John Phelps, Dr. Samuel Mather and John Ingersoll were chosen a committee to inquire into the state of Boston and report at a subsequent meeting. July 19 they made the following report:

"Whereas the State House of Representatives of this Province on the 17th of June last past taking into consideration the many distresses and difficulties into which the American colonies and this Province in particular, are and must be reduced by the operation of certain late acts of Parliament, did resolve to determine that it is highly expedient that a Committee should be appointed by the several British Colonies on this continent to consult together on the present state of the colonies and to deliberate and determine upon Proper Measures to be by them recommended to all colonies, for the recovery and establishment of the just rights and liberties, and the restoring of that Union and Harmony between Great Britain and the Colonies ardently desired by all good men; and did, on the same day, appoint a comtee of five Gentlemen to meet said Committee on the first day of September next at the city of Philadelphia for the purposes before said;—

"Voted that we the inhabitants aforesaid in town meeting assembled, do cordially approve of the above measure taken by the said House, and would fervently pray that the Great Father

of the Universe out of his abundant goodness, would bless their meeting, and afford them that wisdom that is profitable to direct upon measures most salutary to Extricate us from ye difficulties and distresses under which we are laboring, and that we are cheerfully ready to adopt and strictly to adhere to any practicable measures said Congress may recommend relative to said relief not inconsistent with our duty to God and allegiance to our Rightful Sovereign George the third; and in the meantime we shall encourage our own Manufactures, and discountenance unnecessary use of India Teas and British goods, and that we shall not be wanting of charity to the town of Boston and Charlestown in their Distressing Day;—but think they ought to be relieved and sustained until the sense of the colonies may be had touching their conduct and shall send them that relief that their Circumstances and our abilities upon due consideration shall dictate and direct."

"The foregoing was voted to be accepted by the town unanimously, and the Clerk of the Town is desired to forward it to the Chairman of the Congress at Boston, and that it may be publicly entered in ye Publick Prints."

July 19, 1774, the town voted unanimously and granted, to be paid out of the town treasury, forty shillings for the committee of congress.

September 19, 1774, Capt. John Moseley, Eldad Taylor and Mr. Elisha Parks were chosen delegates to a county congress to meet at Northampton.

Capt. John Moseley and Mr. Elisha Parks were chosen as representatives of the town to attend the general court, to be held October 5 at Salem. It was voted "that if the General Court doth not act constitutionally, that our Representatives, with Representatives of the Provinces, if they judge it expedient, do form themselves into a Congress unitedly to sit at Concord or any other place where they may agree, to consult the best interests and safety of the Provinces at this critical time."

At a town meeting November 14, 1774, it was "voted and accepted the list of the soldiers as is returned by the Comtee, viz. Eldad Taylor, Elisha Parks, Joseph Root, Capt. John Moseley,

Daniel Sacket, Daniel Fowler, Oliver Ingersole, Capt. Shepard appointed to make a division into two companies."

"Voted that Capt. John Moseley and Mr. Elisha Parks be desired to attend the Congress at Cambridge next or next session."

At a meeting called in Jan. 1775, the same two men were chosen to attend the congress at Cambridge and instructed "that our Comtee shall not consent when in ye Provincial Congress, to any acts that may be there made to take up the Government or to assume kingly authority."

At a meeting in February, 1775, "the Comtee appointed to search for Province Guns and to see what may be procured for the use of the minute-men on a sudden emergence," reported that they found in the houses of sundry persons some province arms, "with what can be hired is between 30 or 40, and a few Bagganets."

"Voted to provide necessary provision for those persons that are not able to provide for themselves & to see that all persons be immediately Equipt with Millitary accoutrements as the law of the Province requires."

"Voted that the Comtee of Correspondence be a Comtee with the select men to make the necessary Provision as Granted above."

"Voted by Great Majority That there shall or may be Raised a Company of minute men."

On the 19th of April, 1775, Major Pitcairn ordered the advanced guard of the British forces, sent to Lexington to destroy the military stores there collected. Eight colonists were killed and many others wounded. "When the news of Lexington reached Westfield," Holland says, "seventy men at once set out for Boston, under command of Capt. Warham Parks and Lieutenants John Shepard and Richard Falley." According to Holland this is the largest number of soldiers that went at once from any town in Hampshire county, then including the three river counties. To this number we must add one officer, Lieutenant-Colonel William Shepard, who, with Colonel Timothy Danielson of Brimfield, commanded a regiment.

Some who have given us an account of the men who set out from Westfield the day after the battle at Lexington say that there were seventy-six men from Westfield, others that there were fifty-three. There were probably fifty-three in the company that marched from Westfield on the 20th of April, the day after the fight at Lexington. Others were delayed a little in Westfield, it seems, and joined the advance division near Boston. The following names are accredited to the first division: Zechariah Bush, Amos Bush, Moses Bush, Lewis Charles, James Culverson, Aaron Chapman, Moses Dewey, Benjamin Dewey, James Derrick, Eliab Dewey, Jonathan Dewey, Stephen Dewey, Moses Gunn, Eli Granger, Daniel Gunn, Warham Gunn, Joseph Kellogg, David King, Agnatius Linus, Bartholomew Noble, Asa Noble, Roger Noble, James Minocks, Azariah Moseley, Asahel Owen, David Piercy, Jared Plumb, Justus Pomerory, William Robinson, David Ross, Martin Root, Jonathan Snell, John Smith, Joshua Senn, Phineas Sexton, Abner Sackett, Israel Sackett, Gideon Shepard, John Shepard, David Taylor, Nathaniel Tremain, Jedediah Taylor, Ruggles Winchell, William Welch, Luther White, Reuben Wharfield, Solomon Williams, Abner Ward.

A partial list of others than those named who served as soldiers during some part of the war, we also note: William Ashley, Simeon Burke, Amos Barlow, Lieut. Bagg, Lieut. Buell, Aaron Bush, Elijah Bliss, Titus Bigelow, James Carter, John Carter, Buckley Caldwell, Noah Cobley, Aaron Dewey, Deacon Israel Dewey, John Dewey, Noah Dewey, jr., Asaph Dewey, David Dewey, Sergt. Moses Dewey, Ely Danielson, Sergt. Benjamin Dewey, Timothy Dewey, A. Eager, Isaac Ensign, Samuel Fowler, Frederic Fowler, Ebenezer Fowler, Blackleach Fowler, Luther Fowler, John Fowler, Daniel Fowler, John Frost, Capt. John Ferguson, Stephen Fowler, Bildad Fowler, jr., David Fowler, jr., Capt. Gray, Elijah Haxman, Enoch Holcomb, jr., Moses Hanchet, Jacob Halliday, Oliver Ingersoll, John Ingersoll, Capt. John Kellogg, Aaron King, jr., Peter Kitts, Silas King, Gideon J. Linsey, Seth Linsey, Jonathan Lyon, Capt. David Moseley, Samuel Mather, Zadoc, Edward and Samuel Martindale, Bilda Noble, Lieut. Stephen Noble, Paul Noble, Sergeant Gad Noble, Shadrack

Noble, Aaron Phelps, Justin Pomeroy, David Province, William Palmer, Silas, Samuel and Jonathan Root, Joseph Root, jr., Datis E. Root, jr., Abner Stevenson, Simeon Stiles, William Sackett, Thomas Sparks, John Stiles, Phineas Southwell, Jonathan Sibley, Elijah Williams, Sergt. Martin Way, James Woodbury, John Wilson, Nathan Waldron. During the first three years of the war it is estimated that more than a hundred men entered the army from Westfield.[1]

The town meeting, in April, a few days after the battle of Lexington, gave evidence of progress towards independence. The second article of the warrant was "to consult what measure may be best to be done to secure our privileges and whether it is advisable to take up government." Money was also voted to purchase "powder and warlike stores." As the town records are imperfect, the record of the earlier committee of "Correspondence and Inspection" is wanting; but the names of those chosen by the town in December, 1775, are as follows: Col. John Moseley, Col. Elisha Parks, Daniel Fowler, Dr. Samuel Mather, Capt. David Moseley, Lieut. John Kellogg, Lieut. Daniel Sacket, Ensign Zachariah Bush, Bohan King, Oliver Ingersoll, David Weller, jr., Ensign Daniel Bragg, Lieut. Stephen Noble.

At a subsequent election of a "Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety," August, 1776, the new men elected were Martin Root, Robert Hazard, William H. Church, William Hiscock and Oliver Weller. The following year the committee included Benjamin Saxton and Capt. John Gray.

During the winter of 1777-78, ever memorable for the patriotic fortitude of the continental army suffering for clothing and other supplies at Valley Forge, Col. Shepard writes to his townsmen. At a meeting held March 9, 1778, it was voted to send Warham Parks to Boston, "as an agent for the town in consequence of sundry letters from Col. Shepard & others in the continental

[1]J. D. Bartlett, of Westfield, who has spent much time in gathering facts for a history of the town tells me that he has evidence gathered from the state records and other sources that not less than two hundred and fifty men from Westfield entered the army during the Revolutionary war. Granting that the population of the town during this period was about 1,500, and that the males numbered 750, one-third of the males, practically all the able-bodied men of military age were at one time or another in the army.

army,—on the cost of the town. Voted also to choose a committee to remonstrate to the general court of the Nakedness of the Army, and of the Necessity of its being supplied with clothing.'' It seems the state authorities acted promptly, considering the slow means of communication, for in April the town held a meeting and appointed a committee to provide the fifty-three shirts and fifty-three pairs of shoes and stockings, demanded for the army. The committee, according to their judgment, made requisitions upon each householder. There was not time to make the articles required. The army was suffering. The articles, we may believe, were collected and forwarded promptly. There were no stores of ready-made clothing as now. Each family, in the rural districts especially, made its own clothing.

At the May meeting, 1778, it was voted to pay thirty pounds to each soldier raised to reinforce the army. This was a bounty. At the May meeting of the next year the town, by a vote of 75 to 1, instructed their representatives to give their votes for calling a state convention to form a new (state) constitution or form of government.

June 29, 1779, it was ''voted to raise the sum of Twelve Hundred Pounds for the encouragement of the soldiers to be raised to join the continental army forthwith, for the space of nine months.'' In August, Col. John Moseley was chosen a member of the convention to meet at Cambridge, September 1, to form a new (state) constitution. A committee of nine men were chosen to instruct the delegate.

At the same meeting August, 1779, appeared a hint of dissatisfaction with the existing government, which later ripened into a threatened revolution under the name of Shays's rebellion. Then, and in the years following, the people of Westfield acted with due consideration, avoiding those ill-concerted gatherings and movements that disgraced many other sections of the state. Gen. Shepard of Westfield rendered most effective service in restoring order to the state. It was voted at this time ''that the petition of Benjamin Winchell and others for the purpose of stopping the Courts of Justice in the County be not entertained.''

At the October meeting, 1779, a bounty of thirty pounds was voted for each soldier ''now to be raised for the continental ser-

vice & destined to Claversack and also their mileage at two shillings per mile.'' When the state constitution was formed, and submitted to the people of the state, the town appointed a committee of eleven ''to make objections,'' and report. At the adjourned meeting the town voted to accept the whole constitution, excepting those articles objected to by the committee. Among the improvements suggested by the committee were the following:

''The Senate should consist of 28 only.''

''The Governor should declare himself to be of the Christian and Protestant Religion.''

''Justices of the Peace should be nominated by the town, and hold office for 3 years.''

''No minister of the gospel should be allowed a seat in the House of Representatives.''

As the war continued, the need of men at home was more severely felt and it was more and more difficult for Westfield to meet the requisitions for money and men. In 1780, June 16, the town voted ''to give the nineteen soldiers to be raised for the continental army for the term of six months three pounds per month in hard money, or Continental money equivalent, as wages, and one thousand dollars in continental money as bounty for each man and the bounty money to be paid before the marching of the men.'' July 5, five additional six months men were raised, to whom it was agreed to pay a like heavy bounty. As requested by the general court, the town, during the year, agreed to purchase twelve horses for the army. The town also voted to raise $44,000 to purchase beef, in accord with the order of the general court. Before the year closed they voted to raise eighteen more men. It was voted to raise 30,000 pounds to defray the expenses of the year.

January 2, 1781, it was voted to raise 130 pounds in hard money to buy beef ordered for the army by the general court. In September of this year the town resolved to give each one of the militia who should serve in Connecticut, under the command of Governor Trumbull, 3 pounds per month, in hard money.

There was a public celebration in Westfield of the signing of the treaty of peace. Thirteen guns, in honor of the states joined

in one nation, was the morning salute. Rev. Noah Atwater, the town minister, delivered an eloquent discourse in the forenoon; then followed the banquet, with many toasts, each followed by discharge of cannon. The fireworks of the evening closed the day.

Shays' Rebellion.—Freedom from British rule by the toils and privations of a seven years' war had been gained. New troubles arose. It was difficult in country towns to obtain money enough to pay the taxes. The settlement of debts had been deferred during the war. The courts were now busy in enforcing payment; imprisonment was a penalty for non-payment.

Those who were in straitened circumstances, but who intended to pay their debts, keenly felt the need of delay, and would gladly have the courts stop for a time—at least until the state legislature would diminish what seemed unnecessary expense in the legal processes of enforcing payments.

There was another class who wished in some way to avoid paying their debts. These had not forgotten that the colonists in freeing themselves from the government of Great Britain had freed themselves from debts due the English abroad. Why not have another revolution, set up a new government, and escape from the debts contracted under the present government?

There was another class whose pleasure was found in excitement, in adventure and in change. The stirring events of the war had passed. The staid life of a New England farmer was irksome; they preferred to be where something was "going on."

These several classes were in no sense bloodthirsty. They thought to stop the courts and compel acquiescence in their demands, by gathering crowds (mobs), hoping to prevail by force of numbers. Perhaps a hundred men and boys from Westfield were at one time and another with the rabble that made up the followers of Shays, yet the citizens of Westfield, as a body, as shown by the town records, were in favor of constitutional and conservative methods of adapting public measures to the exigencies of the times. They and some fifty other towns in Hampshire county, sent delegates to the Hatfield convention and afterwards instructed their representative to the general court to se-

cure by legislative enactment, in a legitimate way, changes in the laws, that, as a result of the discussions in the convention, seemed desirable. The town in these troublous times was both considerate and conservative. The action of General Shepard, a leading citizen of the town, in resisting with his military force the mob intent upon plundering the arsenal at Springfield, was as humane as it was decisive, and quite in keeping with the honorable record of his unswerving patriotism.

General Shepard.—It would be fitting, if space allowed, to outline the personal history of men who have led in the progressive development of Westfield, and who, by their deeds here, and elsewhere, have deserved lasting honor. The heroes of former days, whose exploits were worthy of fame, had no scribes to herald their deeds. A little fellow in one of our schools, after listening to stories and incidents of men engaged in one of our recent wars, was asked why these men went to war. He replied: "To have something written, and stories told, about them." Publicity was not a motive in earlier times and the products of the press were very limited as compared with the present. The materials for biographies of the founders of our nation are very scanty. We shall attempt to outline but two of the famous men of Westfield, making use, in the first case, of one of the sketches of William G. Bates, who, in his boyhood, had some personal knowledge of the man:

Major-General William Shepard was born December 1, 1737, and died November, 1817. The eighty years of his life included the times of all the wars with the French and Indians, beginning with King George's war and ending with the capture of Quebec and the conquest of Canada. These eighty years also included the time of the war for independence and the war of 1812. In all these wars, with the exception of the latter, Gen. Shepard was an active participant, and could his life in detail be written, as Irving wrote the life of Washington, it would be an epitome of the history of the wars. His limited common school education ended at the age of seventeen, when he entered the army at the beginning of the French and Indian war. Under Generals Abercrombie and Amherst he was promoted from the ranks, through

successive grades, and remained with the army until the conquest of Canada established Anglo-Saxon supremacy in North America. He then returned to Westfield, married, hung up his sword and put his hand to the plough, hoping to enjoy the peace of a farmer's life. The thrill of the slaughter at Lexington and Concord was felt by all. William Shepard hastened at once

The General Shepard Elm

Franklin Street, Westfield, Mass.

to the camp at Roxbury. He was made colonel and was the companion of Washington in most if not in all his battles. By him he was appointed to protect the retreat from Long Island, during which his neck was pierced by a ball. He was borne from the field. While the surgeons were probing for the ball his consciousness returned. "Bring me a canteen," said he. Finding

that he could drink, and that the organs of his throat were not severed, he said to the surgeon: "It is all right, doctor, stick on a plaster and tie on my cravat, for I am going out again." In spite of the remonstrance of the surgeon, and to the amazement of the attendants, out he went into the battle. This was but one of the twenty-two battles that tested his valor and proved that the commission of general was justly and wisely given him.

When the war was ended, and the impressive words of Washington had been spoken to the officers, who, through so many years, had been his companions in toil, privation and "on the perilous edge of battle," General Shepard again returned to his little estate to maintain himself and those dependent upon him by his toil in the fields. He did more. His simple style of living, his exemplary conduct, his public spirit, his Christian endeavor and his neighborly kindness furnished a model for younger men and kindled their aspirations for a noble life. Though his opportunities for intellectual culture had been restricted in youth, and though the routine of camp life had allowed little opportunity for adding to his general knowledge, such were his common sense, his bravery, his high character for uprightness and intelligence, that the people were ready to trust him to perform the highest and most delicate services for the public good. He was chosen state representative, senator and councillor. He was three times elected representative to congress. The governor of Massachusetts appointed him to treat with the Indians of Penobscot. The United States government appointed him to treat with the Six Nations. He served in many town offices and was deacon of the church for twenty-four years. He was a large, well formed man, six feet in height, compactly built, not corpulent, and weighing something more than two hundred pounds. His personal appearance was impressive. On training days, when, with others, he came out to observe the evolutions of the military companies during the closing years of his life, Mr. Bates, then a boy, says of him: "When I recall his large, imposing figure, bedecked with his trusty sword and crimson sash, the modest insignia of his rank, accompanied by Adjutant Dewey, with the bright point of his spontoon glistening in the sun, and

heard the whispers 'There's the general,' I remember the awe, notwithstanding his genial face, with which he inspired me."

After the reviews and evolutions were finished the soldiers were discharged. "Then came the greetings and the shaking hands with the general."

Speaking of his character, Mr. Bates adds: "The man, who for more than thirty years, was in the service of his country, in places of high emolument, the man who was esteemed by Washington and was his companion in all the battles of the revolution, who, being detached for that purpose, fought with Gates at the battle of Saratoga and contributed to the surrender of Burgoyne; the man who, notwithstanding his simple and frugal habits of living, in his small brown house, his constant and energetic labor, in the favorite business of his life, went to his grave a poor man![1] What a record is that to leave of him? No taint of meanness or dishonesty ever attached itself to him. He was distinguished for his good character and his unbending integrity."

The rank and file of the leading men of Westfield during the Indian wars and the war of the revolution furnish many examples of worthy and valiant men. Our limits forbid the notice of more than one, though his cotemporaries were equally worthy.

"Eldad Taylor," according to the local historian, J. D. Bartlett, "the last son and child of Minister Taylor and Ruth Wyllys, his second wife, was born in 1708. He lived to become one of the eminent men of Westfield, both in church and state." Though not himself a clergyman, he was closely related to several, as his father was a lifelong minister, and each of his five sisters married a minister. In 1741, the year of the settlement of Rev. John Ballantine, Mr. Taylor became deacon, and was prominent in caring for the interests of the church. His large family, including several sons, well sustained the honor of the name in public and in private life.

Mr. Taylor's name is of frequent occurrence on the town records. He held many town offices at different times. At the

[1]The inventory of his real and personal estate as reported by his executors was $289, as proved by the researches of J. D. Bartlett.

age of twenty-five he represented the town in the colonial legislature and many times during later years. He had a part in laying the foundations of our state government, for he, with Elisha Parks, Col. John Moseley, William Shepard and Daniel Fowler, all notable men, represented Westfield in the first "Continental" legislature of Massachusetts, 1775. Mr. Taylor is alluded to as " a member of the council," the following year. Some selections from a long letter written to his wife from Boston, or the immediate vicinity, give some details of the evacuation of Boston by the British, which may not have been recorded elsewhere:

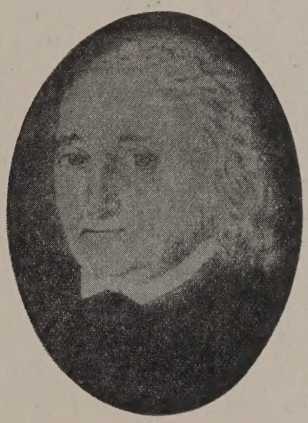
SUNDAY, March 18, 1776.

MY DEAR: This morning opens with much news, no doubt it will be pleasing to you and all friends to have ye most authentic account probable. The *Ministerial Vermin* left Boston yesterday morning in ye utmost confusion. . . . This morning, I have been with Dr. Winthrop to get the best intelligence. They say that ever since our cannonading ye Sabbath before last, they, viz., ye Regulars have been upon ye move & designed to withdraw last Friday, but ye wind not favoring of ym were detained and left Saturday night. Our forces took possession of a small hill nearer Boston and ye shipping than ever before, on Dorchester Point [which] caused ye Regulars to fire at ym all night but without any hurt to any of our men except one a little, not much hurt by ye scattering of some gravel & we did not return one shot. In ye morning early they left in utmost haste and confusion and [are] below ye Castle and where they are destined is not known but supposed to Halifax. The tories are gone off with ye Regulars except a few. . . . The Selectmen say that ye tories were ye most dreadful against ym of any. They say that all ye sufferings of ye poor for want of provisions and necessaries of life, was not equal to ye insult, scorn & derision & contempt from them.

The Ministerial Butchers have robbed the Warehouses and shops of all ye best goods they could carry away and destroyed what they could in their hurry. . . . In their hurry on pur-

posely they scattered numbers of good blankets. It is said that in one of them was wrapped up a child that had died of Small Pox. We are more in danger in that quarter now than from the Enemie. . . . The poor distressed captives from Boston come with a most pleasing aspect in their faces rejoicing at so great deliverance. . . .

They say that ye tories about a fortnet ago was in high spirits encouraging ye troops that they should be soon masters of America but—when ye orders were given to prepare to sail, they were struck with paleness & astonishment. . . . Mortifying indeed. They, ye Selectmen, say ye town is in a most dreadful



Eldad Taylor

condition, houses torn, streets nasty, town empty. They carried away our prisoners taken at Bunker hill fight in irons, also Master Lovewell. They left some of their draft horses and about 1000 bushels of wheat. The Bells and organs are not hurt.

From as always your consort, ELDAD TAYLOR.

In the old burying ground is a tablet to Mr. Taylor's first wife, who died in 1740, in the twenty-ninth year of her age.

A second tablet bears his name and that of his second wife, to whom the letter was addressed. The inscription is:

In memory of the
HONORABLE ELDAD TAYLOR ESQ.
who died in Boston the 21st of
May, 1777, AEt. 69, and lies
interred in the Tomb of the
Hon. John Wendell Esq.
ALSO
MRS. THANKFUL TAYLOR
his relic died Aug. 12th
1803 aged 82 years
Kind reader this stone
Informs you who we are,
What we were we tell you not,
What we ought to have been that be thou,
Where we are now ye will know hereafter.
REMEMBER THAT CHRIST
IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

Before the town was organized the settlers provided a school for their children. After the incorporation of the town the selectmen annually, in town meeting, were required by vote of the town to provide a schoolmaster and to pay him a specified salary. No stress of war was deemed sufficient to excuse the town from caring for the school. The schoolmaster in the earlier days often received his pay in grain at the prices fixed by the town. Such was the scarcity of money that payments were often more promptly made in grain than in cash. The contract with the schoolmaster was a matter of sufficient importance to be at times recorded upon the town books. For instance:

"December 16, 1703. These presents testify an agreement made between the select men and Joseph Sexton in behalf of the towne of Westfield we is as ffowlleth viz:—The said Joseph Sexton is hereby bound and obliged to keepe schoole from ye day of ye date hereof untill the fifteenth day of Aprill nexte ensuing all we time hee Doth Ingage to use ye best of his skill and industry

soe far forthe as he is capassatated to teach children to read & wright wn sent to schoole during said terms.

"2nd. The Select men as aforesaid in behalf of ye towne Doth Ingage to pay to ye afore sd Sexton or to his order ye sums of ten pounds att or before ye afour sd terms shall be expired Viz. Wheat at 5s per bushell, Good white pease at 4s. 6d pr bushell, Ry at 3s. 3d. per bushell, Indian corn at 2s. 4d per bushell, barley at 3s per bushell in any or either of ye afoursd species being good and merchantable. This ye afou sd parties Doe acknowledge to be ye trew intent and meaning of ye a four'sd bargaine in every particular.

"Entered by order of the selectmen.

"Attest: JOSEPH SEXTON, *Town Clarke.*"

If the spelling of these early records is defective, this should be remembered: There was no fixed standard of spelling available for the common people, beyond the limited lists furnished in spelling books. Johnson's dictionary was not published until after the middle of the eighteenth century. Walker's dictionary was published a score of years earlier, but its vocabulary was limited and it was rarely seen in rural communities.

That Latin was taught by the town or grammar schoolmaster is evident from the vote passed in 1724 respecting Mr. Isaac Stiles, whom the town promises to pay "fivety pounds for keeping the school one year, that is to say the three summer months, he shall be obliged only for keeping the Latin schoolers."

Yet when there were no pupils in the school studying Latin the selectmen do not seem to have been required to obtain a college graduate as teacher, but might obtain a "scolar or some other fit person."

In several towns the grammar school became at times migratory. There were reasons why families living on Union street and in Little river district should wish to bring the school to their neighborhoods. January 15, 1774, the town voted not to move the grammar school from place to place. It was customary to charge tuition to those attending the grammar or town school. Votes similar to the following frequently occur. December 2,

1698, it was voted "that all boys capable to go to school, their parents or masters to pay three pence a week for readers and four pence a week for wrighters." The grammar school was in part to prepare for college. As there were no higher institutions during the first century after the incorporation of the town open to women, one reason for the attendance of girls at the grammar school was wanting. The main reason, however, for their non-attendance was that the opinion generally prevailed that it was neither needful, fitting nor wise to educate girls beyond the ability to read and to write. The duty of educating boys was recognized. The duty of educating girls was disregarded after they had learned to read and write.

In a vote passed April 26, 1705, the first mention of girls as pupils of the town school occurs. They are to pay the same tuition as boys "if they goo," but all boys from 7 to 12 are to pay "whether they go or not."

The town took no action respecting the "Dame" or primary schools for many years. These seem to have been maintained by private effort. With, or without schools, all children, in respectable families, were taught to read, for it was deemed the duty of parents to see to it that their children were trained to read the Bible.

At the town meeting, held March 9, 1719, action was taken recognizing one other school than that taught at the center or fort side of the town. It was voted "to allow forty five shillings towards the school over Little River." In 1724 three pounds were voted "to be improved in hiring a schoolmaster there this winter season." May 13, 1725, the town voted to "give the widow Catharine Noble twenty five shillings a month for keeping school so long as the town sees cause to improve her in that service and if she sees cause to assent to it." This appears to be the first recognition in the town records of a female teacher.

The wood for fuel was furnished the school by the parents and guardians of the pupils. In December, 1698, the town voted that "such persons that send their children to the school shall provide a load of wood for each scholar; it is to be understood that boys from 4 to 14 are to pay." This action seems to be but

the legal enforcement of a custom that for many years obtained in the country towns.

The objects sought by those who first settled our state made the school the necessary complement of the church. When the community came to be made up of denominations differing in religious belief, as well as of those caring little for any form of faith, public schools could no longer be maintained by one denomination. The school was no longer the handmaid of the church. The religious motives for maintaining the public school declined. The terrible war of Philip, soon followed by French and Indian wars, prolonged with uncertain intervals through two generations, and the long and exhausting struggle for independence, diverted attention from the public schools and diminished the means for their upbuilding. They were in a wretched condition at the close of the war for independence. Those interested in the education of the young were obliged to provide other schools. With no little self-denial on the part of the donors, aided from time to time by legislative grants, academies were established. The centering of the interest of the friends of popular education in academies increased their number and their efficiency, but helped also to increase the neglect of the common schools and to postpone any generous attempt to improve them. In the dark age, as it has been called, of the common schools, elementary education was persistently cherished, at the firesides of the people, however defective the public schools, until men who had learned the value of better schools by attending academies and by informing themselves of the methods of educational reformers in Germany and elsewhere, introduced a new and progressive era in the common schools of the state and the nation.

Westfield Academy was chartered June 19, 1793, though not opened for the admission of students until January, 1800. The scholarly and energetic minister of the town, Rev. Noah Atwater, for three years previous to his settlement, in 1781, a tutor in Yale college, evidently had much to do with the founding of the academy. The minister in most of the settlements was the educational, no less than the religious, leader of the community. Mr. Atwater seems to have been especially earnest in caring for

the culture of the young. At times he joined the work of teaching to that of the ministry, that he might help boys on toward college. The state authorities willingly granted the act of incorporation of Westfield academy, as there was no other institution of the sort in Western Massachusetts. It was the fourth academy incorporated in Massachusetts.

That the academy might be established the town voted £600 towards its endowment. The act of incorporation named General William Shepard and others as trustees of Westfield academy, "to be and continue a body politic, by the same name, forever." The trustees were authorized to hold lands or other estate, the annual income of which should not exceed $2,000. In 1797 citizens of the town had subscribed $1,000. In response to a petition of the trustees half a township of land in the district of Maine was granted by the legislature in aid of the academy. The sale of this land and private subscriptions so increased the funds that a building was completed in 1799, at a cost of about $5,000. Hon. Samuel Fowler, agent for building the academy, in town meeting, April 13, 1803, reported the cost to be £927 10s. 8d.

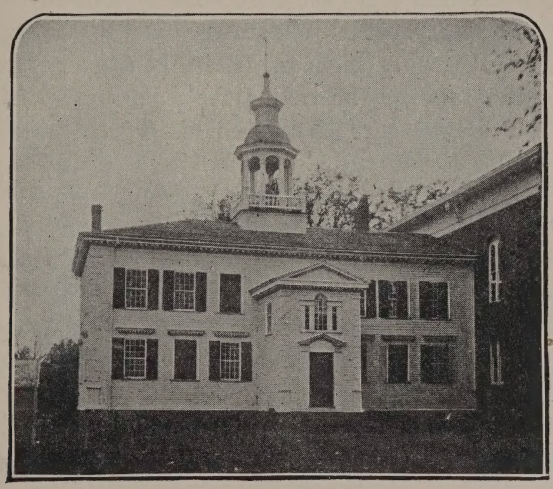
On the first of January, 1800, the building was opened with appropriate dedicatory exercises. Rev. Joseph Lathrop of West Springfield preached the sermon, taking as his text Ps. 144:12. In the closing paragraph occurs this passage: "This day introduces a new year—the year that closes the eighteenth century from the era of your redemption. On this day we are assembled to dedicate to God and commit to his blessing this infant seminary, hoping that here 'our sons will be as plants grown up in their youth, and our daughters as corner-stones polished after the similitude of a palace'—that here formed to useful knowledge, pious sentiments, and virtuous manners, they will bring honor to God, do service to men in their day, and transmit to another generation the pious principles and the excellent wisdom which they here imbibe."

The sermon was followed by a brief address, and the presentation of the keys by Hon. Samuel Fowler, president of the board of trustees. The following passage occurs in the first part of his

address: "We have assembled this day for the delightful purpose of dedicating and setting apart this building for the important design of education, that the rising generation may be instructed in the various branches of human and sacred erudition.

"We rejoice that this happy lot has fallen to us and that we have an opportunity to impart a small portion of our property in laying the foundation of so useful an institution.

"The attention of the citizens of this commonwealth to the education of the rising generation affords a most pleasing pros-



The old Academy, Westfield

pect of the future support of religion, science and morality. These are the grand pillars on which this country has been raised to its present opulence and splendor and on which the principles of our most excellent frame of government must be continued and supported."

Preceptors following Peter Starr, the first preceptor, were: Henry C. Martindale, afterwards member of congress; Lyman Strong, Alfred Perry, M. D., Horatio Waldo, Saul Clark, Theodore North, Sylvester Selden, Francis L. Robbins, Samuel M.

Emerson, Alfred Stearns, Charles Jenkins, Stephen Taylor, Flavel S. Gaylord, George W. Benedict, Elnathan Gridley, Alvan Wheeler, M. D., Parsons Cooke and Emerson Davis, who resigned in 1836, after fourteen years' service, to become pastor of the Congregational church. The above named, with one exception, were graduates of Williams college.

In his brief sketch of Westfield, printed in 1826, Preceptor Davis thus outlines the condition of the academy:

"The building was repaired in 1824. It has two school rooms on the lower floor and on the other a large hall and lecture room. The institution is furnished with a sufficient quantity of chemical and philosophical apparatus for illustrating the general principles of those sciences. There is also a respectable collection of minerals for the use of the academy. Instruction is given in the departments of natural history to those who wish. Terms continue eleven weeks—tuition is three dollars per quarter. During the fall, winter and spring quarters, twenty-five cents in addition is paid for fuel, sweeping, bell ringing, &c. Present number of students 110. About three thousand have been educated at this academy since its establishment, many of whom hold conspicuous stations in life, and many others are useful members of society. The funds of the academy are $5000."

The preceptors following Emerson Davis, between the years 1844 and 1856, were: Ariel Parish, William W. Woodworth, Rev. Hubbard Beebe, William C. Goldthwaite, Ephraim Flint, William C. Butler and Moses Smith.

Many ushers and many ladies of superior ability and of generous culture left the impress of their character and teaching upon students in attendance. Among the lady assistants, or preceptresses, was Miss Emma Hart, from Connecticut, who afterward married Dr. Willard of Troy and established the famous Troy female seminary, one of the first schools in the country to provide adequate higher instruction for women. Miss Philena Carpenter, preceptress for several years, added to her other accomplishments skill in teaching needlework and painting. Pictures painted under her instruction were much appreciated in many homes. Another, among many others who won and who

deserved high esteem, was Miss A. Elizabeth Stebbins, afterwards the wife of Norman T. Leonard.

When Westfield academy was founded it was the only institution of the sort in Western Massachusetts. During the following half century rival institutions, better endowed, sprang up, and free high schools began to be established. This academy became but one of many institutions occupying territory once exclusively her own. William G. Bates was the soul of a movement to prevent the decline of the institution. We quote from him:

"It became apparent to the friends of the academy, that, in its appointments, it was in a situation where a large expenditure should be, and must be, made, to prolong its usefulness. The building, though an elegant one for the time it was erected, had become dilapidated and old. It was still comfortable, and might by repairs have been made still more so; but it was 'behind the times,' in its extent and in its architectural beauty. It was therefore determined to erect a new building as an addition—or, rather, to erect a new academy, and have the old building subserve the part of lecture rooms, and other similar purposes. An address was accordingly prepared and printed, addressed to the alumni and the friends of the academy. A response was made to the application, by, in some cases, very generous subscriptions. A contract was made for the building, and on the 31st of July, 1857, the corner-stone was laid, with imposing ceremonies, and an address was delivered by Mr. Bates, and original odes were sung by a chorus of voices. The future seemed prosperous, and the donors felt that their benefactions had been judiciously expended."

J. B. Holland was appointed preceptor in 1858. Circulars had been sent to the alumni to aid in securing students. The school opened with a full attendance. It was soon evident that the decline of the academy could not be permanently arrested. The rise of the Westfield and other high schools, the development of Williston seminary and other well endowed institutions within the territory once exclusively the territory of the Westfield academy made it impossible without a large endowment to restore its

pre-eminence or to continue its new life. Mr. Holland resigned in 1864. Charles F. Durfee was preceptor for a year. Mr. Geddes attempted to maintain the school another year. In 1867 the grounds and the building were sold to the town of Westfield and have since been the premises of the high school. The trustees added the proceeds to the fund of the academy to accumulate until there should be suitable opportunity to use the same, in the words of the charter, in "promoting piety, religion, and morality, and for the instruction of youth in such languages, and such of the liberal arts and sciences, as the trustees shall direct."

We may not pass from the institutional life of the academy without again quoting from Mr. Bates. In his bi-centennial address, delivered October 6, 1869, on the occasion of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Westfield, alluding to the academy, he said:

"It would be a pleasing retrospect if we were to pass over the first two-thirds of the present century, and record the names of those at whose feet, from time to time, we have sat for guidance and for instruction; if we were to recall those early companions, with whom we strayed, and played, and perhaps toiled along the paths of learning—companions dear to us then—of whom we felt, 'very pleasant hast thou been to me, my brother'—but oh, how doubly dear now, as one by one they have faded from our sight, leaving us more and more alone, like a city, which sits solitary, and yet is full of people—in the world, but not of it, among men, yet not of them, and sighing for the unselfish friendship of those who made our young hours happy; if we were to estimate the effect which the establishment of the institution has wrought upon the material interests of the town, its moral influence upon the people, and the heightened tone it has given to its intelligence and its virtue; if we were to consider what a result has been produced upon the world at large, by more than nine thousand people, who have gone out from it, to all parts of the civilized globe. But the topic is too vast for the occasion. I may say, however, in regard to it as a part of the history of the town, that the proximity of other institutions, endowed by enlightened liberality, with ample funds, enabling them to provide more

numerous teachers, more extensive apparatus, and more commodious boarding accommodations, inaugurated a rivalry against which this almost unendowed institution could poorly struggle. The buildings and grounds, which had come down to us, were accordingly sold. The estate of the academy is invested for increase, until by accumulation, augmented as I trust it will be, by future benefactions, it shall again spring forward into a field of usefulness.

"My fellow citizens, I say now, in as full faith as I said to you on the 31st of July, 1857, 'Westfield academy will never die! It was born to be immortal! It was incorporated to *be* and *continue* a body politic *forever*'; and if this generation shall pass away with a deluded apathy to its interests, it will find, in a generation perhaps now unborn, friends who will rally around it, with the zeal of its first founders, and rejoice with exceeding great joy, in its returned prosperity."

Mr. Bates proved his faith by his works. Before his death he deeded to the trustees of the Westfield academy, in aid of its purposes, real estate which he valued approximately at ten thousand dollars. The trustees of the academy, in recent years, have secured the ends for which it was established by using the income of its fund in extending the course of study and in increasing the efficiency of the high school; the trustees also actively co-operate with the school committee of the town in the management of the school; hence the history of the academy is in a measure merged with that of the high school. We turn to its history.

The High School.—The first movement toward the establishment of a high school, as appears from the town records, was the appointment of a committee, in 1837, to procure a site and to build a town house and high school building.

When the town house was completed it contained rooms in the first story for a high school, while the second story was a town hall.

Though no arrangement was made by the town for that purpose, the academy continued to provide, as heretofore, for the instruction of those who continued their studies after learning the grammar grades.

In 1845, when the state board of education were about to provide a permanent abode for the normal school, the town offered to sell the first story and the basement of the town hall to the state for the use of the normal school for the sum of $1,500; but if the board preferred to erect a separate building the town offered to give $500 for that purpose.

Westfield High School

At the April meeting, 1855, the town appropriated $1,000 "for the high school and for fitting up rooms for that purpose."

The school opened in the town hall building the same year. H. E. Daniels was the first principal, Miss H. N. Fletcher (afterwards Mrs. L. R. Norton), the first assistant. These were succeeded by Almon B. and Mrs. Clapp. The succeeding principals were A. H. Bingham, C. D. Hills, E. A. Booth, H. H. Tuttle, A. E. Gibbs, Henry Dame, John Welch and James McLaughlin.

In 1867, as we have seen, the building and grounds of the Westfield academy became those of the high school. The town, in 1889, purchased the Ives property and thus extended the grounds towards the south. In that year the town also voted $26,000 for the reconstruction and enlargement of the high school building. During that year, also, an arrangement to continue for a term of years was completed between the trustees of the academy and the town, by which the income of the academy fund, upon certain conditions, should be used to improve and to extend the work of the high school. In carrying out this arrangement the trustees co-operate with the school committee.

In September, 1890, the new building was ready; a larger faculty had been carefully selected, and a more extended course of study had been prepared by the incoming principal. The school entered upon a new era of usefulness.

During the year the rear wing—the old academy—was burned. It was replaced by a brick wing adapted to the needs of the school.

The studies of the high school are now largely elective, furnishing opportunity for individual culture and for special preparation for future work. The studies are grouped under the following heads: College preparatory, Latin scientific, modern language, English and business course.

Herbert W. Kittredge was appointed principal in 1890. As the result of his thorough teaching, careful administration and tireless energy, and the loyal co-operation of competent teachers in the several departments, the school has reached the foremost rank in the high schools of the state. The principal instructs in Greek and college English. The teachers of other departments are: D. M. Cole, sciences; George W. Miner, business branches; Sara M. Kneil, English and civics; Lucy Jane Dow, Latin; Elizabeth F. Atwood, stenography and typewriting; Grace Crafts Alden, mathematics; Caroline Barhauer, modern languages; Margaret B. Randal, English, history and elocution; Sterrie A. Weaver, music; Marion E. Hurlbut, drawing.

The Atheneum.—In 1864 Samuel Mather, Hiram Harrison and Cutler Laflin, their associates and successors, were incor-

porated under the name of Westfield atheneum. Mr. Mather gave $10,000 as a permanent fund for the maintenance of the library, and is designated on the records as the "founder of the institution." Mr. Harrison gave about the same amount in the form of land, and the building which he erected upon it, on Main street. Ten thousand dollars were raised by subscription for the purchase of books. The donors were Henry T. Morgan, $3,500; Cutler Laflin and Charles Jessup, $1,000 each; William G. Bates, Henry J. Bush, Edward B. Gillett, George L. Laflin and Samuel Fowler, $500 each. Smaller sums were donated by

The Old Atheneum

other parties. Recently the legacy of Addison C. Rand, $5,000, and that of Fanny B. Bates, $1,000, and donations from others, of less amount, have been received.

In 1872, Mrs. Cynthia Eldridge, sister of Samuel Mather, gave $1,000.

May 10, 1895, by the joint action of the directors and the town the library was made free. Number of volumes in the library February, 1902, 18,800; number of regular patrons, 4,000; circulation about 40,000.

CHURCHES

The church first established in Westfield, and for more than one hundred years maintained by the town, is now known as the

First Congregational church. We have already outlined its history. We may add that within a few years a commodious parish house has been added to the church building, furnishing accommodations for the large Sabbath school and for the social gatherings of the various organizations connected with the church. The present membership is 450.

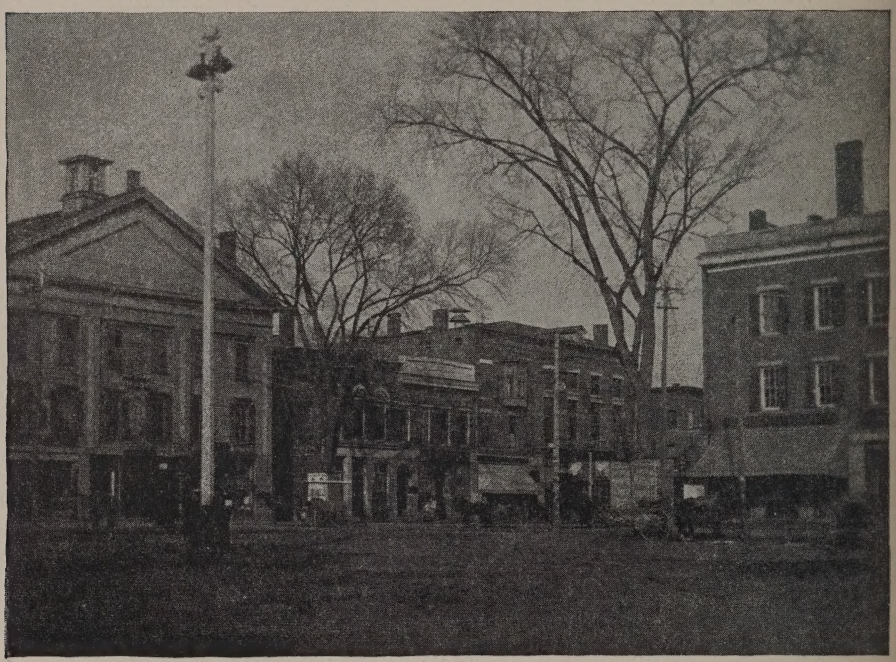
In 1856 a colony of sixty-three from the First church was organized as the Second Congregational church. In 1862 the present church building was erected. A convenient chapel has since been added. The present membership is 434. The following is a list of the pastors, with the date of entering upon their duties: Francis Homes, 1856; Joel S. Bingham, 1856; George Bowler, 1863; Henry Hopkins, 1865; Lyman H. Blake, 1882; William E. Gordon, the present pastor, 1899.

The first Baptist church organized in Westfield was at the West Farms (Wyben). This church prospered for many years, but after a time it was evident that a strong church could not be maintained so far from the center of population. Services, however, were maintained until 1871, when the church was disorganized, the members uniting with the Central Baptist church. Since that time various clergymen from Westfield have held services on Sunday afternoons in a mission chapel.

The "First Baptist church" of Westfield was organized in 1784. Five years later a building was erected near the old county bridge. In 1795 the church became divided and disorganized. The revival of 1806 infused new life. Services were resumed. The little band failed to maintain services from 1810 to 1819. Then Rev. David Wright became the pastor, and through his earnest efforts the membership was increased to 203 in 1826. This church erected its second house of worship on Main street, near the bridge over Little river.

On May 23, 1833, the Central Baptist church was organized, with Rev. David Wright as pastor. This was the beginning of a new era for the Baptists of Westfield. A church building was at once erected on the corner of Elm and Church streets. The church grew and in a few years absorbed the Baptist interests of Westfield. In 1867-8, the church having outgrown its accom-

modations, the present house of worship, during the pastorate of Rev. John Jennings, was erected. In 1898 Mrs. G. I. Hays purchased the brick building, built by A. B. Whitman, and presented it to the church, thus supplying a want long felt for kindergarten rooms and furnishing admirable opportunities for social gatherings. The church has recently provided a new parsonage. The following pastors have served the church: Andrew



Corner of Elm and Main Street, Westfield

The building at the left is the old Methodist church, long since abandoned

M. Smith, David Wright, Charles Van Loan, Farondia Bester, Alfred Colburn, John Alden, William Carpenter, John R. Beaumis, John Jennings, E. M. Gerome, W. H. Eaton, H. P. Smith and R. B. Esten. W. S. Ayres is now the pastor.

Methodism began in Westfield in 1794. The town then was included in what was then called the Granville circuit, and was

a part of the New York conference. Services were first held in that part of the town now called Mundale, then known as Hoophole. In 1812 the first sermon was preached at the center, by Thomas Thorpe, and a class was formed. The first meeting-house was built at Hoophole, also called West Parish and Mundale. In 1830 the town purchased a site and in 1833 the building on Main street was dedicated. In 1836 it became an independent church with Rev. Paul Townsend as first pastor. As a circuit it has had the services of the most distinguished preachers of early Methodism, such as David Kilbourn, Erastus Otis, Jefferson Hascall, Thomas W. Tucker, Jonathan D. Bridge and others.

Revs. Smith, B. McLouth, Ephraim Scott, Jefferson Hascall were successors of Mr. Townsend. In 1843, under Mr. Hascall, a splendid church building was erected on Elm street. So strong and prosperous had the society become that the New England annual conference was held in Westfield, in 1841. Dr. Hascall was succeeded by Drs. Mark Trafton, H. V. Degen, Miner Raymond, J. B. Hatch, G. F. Cox, J. H. Twombly (twice), William Butler, Gilbert Haven (afterwards bishop), I. J. P. Collyer, D. E. Chapin, George Bowler, Hills, Henry W. Warren (now bishop), Daniel Richards, W. G. H. Lewis, J. H. Mansfield, George Whitaker, J. S. Barrows, S. L. Gracey, F. Woods (twice), J. A. Cass, E. A. Titus, J. M. Leonard, Charles Young, L. H. Dorchester, Frederic N. Upham and John D. Pickles, the present pastor. The church has been characterized by strength and aggressiveness. During the second pastorate of Dr. Twombly, the present large and beautiful church edifice was erected. It was dedicated in 1875.

Methodism has had more than a hundred years' history in that part of the town known as Mundale. If our limits allowed it would be a pleasure to note the labors of those who from time to time have been its pastors. Rev. John Evans is the present pastor.

The Universalist church was organized in 1853. Rev. D. H. Plumb was the first pastor. In 1889, the present church building on Elm street was erected. The pastor of this church, Rev. Lucy A. Milton, has recently resigned.

The Episcopal church was organized in 1860. Services were held for some years in the Universalist chapel and later in a hall and in the Universalist church. In 1873, the parish was incorporated under its present name, "The Church of the Atonement." In 1875, it was accepted into the Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts. We note the names of the rectors: Rev. J. Mines, Rev. Andrew Mackie, Rev. J. F. Winkley, Rev. B. F. Cooley, Henry Sheridan, Rev. Mr. Parker, Rev. H. N. Cunningham, Allen C. Prescott, Rev. Henry Tarrant, Rev. N. S. Boardman and Frederick A. Wright, who became rector of the church in 1899, and has recently been compelled by ill-health to resign.

The Second Advent church began as a mission church in 1866. Here Rev. H. L. Hastings and wife labored. In 1869, Mr. Hastings organized a church. Services were held for a time in the Universalist chapel on Chapel street, later in the old Baptist church, corner of Elm and Church streets. In 1874, the present chapel on School street was erected. The ten settled pastors have been: Revs. E. S. Owen, George L. Teeple, James Hemmenway, William C. Stewart, S. G. Mathewson, J. E. Cross, John C. St. John, M. E. Andrews, George M. Little and Allan H. Bissell, recently installed.

If our limits permitted, we should insert the admirable history of St. Mary's church, found in the "History of the Catholic Church," written by Rev. J. J. McCoy. We shall use parts of it.

It is not clear when the first mass was said in Westfield. Father Fitlon speaks of visiting Westfield as a missionary, between 1828 and 1830. Father John Brady of Hartford, was in Westfield during the building of the canal, caring for the Catholic workmen. Later, during the building of railroads, services were again held. John Healy was here in 1840, and about the same time William Sullivan, William Callinan and John O'Neil. This same O'Neil was drowned in Southwick ponds while bringing up the last boat that ever came up the old canal.

The first mass definitely remembered was in the town hall, November, 1851. About one hundred and fifty were present. For some time the Catholics gathered in some one of their houses

whenever the priest visited them. On Sundays, if no priest could be with them, they still assembled and said the rosary and the litanies in common.

James Phillips was an earnest worker. His Protestant friends aided him in securing a church building by purchasing a site in 1853. The vigil of Christ was held in the new building the next year, though the walls were yet unplastered. Father Blenkinsop of Chicopee had charge at this joyful opening of the church.

In 1854, during the time of intense "Know Nothing" excitement, some of the "baser sort" of the town's people gathered and moved toward the new church, threatening to burn it. Catholics gathered in its defence. Hiram Hull, a leading man of the town, met the mob, and by a few well-timed and decisive words, turned them away from the church. Dr. McCoy adds: "The Catholics were never afterwards molested. On the contrary, there has been no time in the church's history, when Protestant neighbors have failed, by kind word and generous help, to encourage all the good that the Catholic hearts and minds could plan."

In 1855, in the month of June, Bp. Fitzpatrick of Boston attended the first confirmation. John Healey, the first to be buried in the Catholic cemetery, was present to see his four children confirmed, though he was in the last stages of consumption.

Westfield was for a time a mission of Springfield. In 1862, Rev. M. X. Carroll became the first resident pastor. He was followed in 1868 by Father Miglionico. In 1874, Rev. Thomas Smythe became pastor, a man much respected by all classes. He had large influence in town affairs.

March, 1881, the church was destroyed by fire. The commodious brick church, now so serviceable, was dedicated by Bishop O'Reilly March 1, 1885. Father Smythe very much enlarged the grounds of the church. One of his latest purchases was the land opposite the church, on which now stand the convent and the new parochial school.

Father Donahue succeeded Father Smythe in 1891. His pastorate, thus far, has been eminently successful. On the

church books are recorded between six and seven hundred marriages and nearly four thousand baptisms.

INDUSTRIES

Westfield for more than one hundred and fifty years was a farming town. Its extensive alluvial meadow lands made it a leading agricultural town. Citizens are now living who remember the beginnings of other industries that now absorb so large a proportion of the capital and the labor of its people; yet the amount of grass, corn, tobacco and other crops is still large.

The whips made in Westfield have spread its name widely. The strands for lashes were first cut on flat tables. The Shakers of Lebanon, New York, were the first to cut strands from horsehides by "stripping," a handicraft practiced with wonderful skill by cutters in Westfield.

The manufacture of whips seems to have been begun, in a very simple and rude way, in Westfield, nearly a century ago. Tradition has it that Joseph Jokes, as early as 1808, made whips with hickory stocks, to which, by a loop or "keeper," a lash was fastened. Soon improvements were made by boiling the wood in a preparation of colored oils. The stocks of the "twisted whips," as they were called, were made of white oak or other wood of tough fibre, and covered with black sheepskin sewed on. The stock of the first plaited whip made in Westfield is said to have been made in the cabinet shop of Erastus Grant, by D. L. Farnham, by gluing together pieces of rattan around a whalebone centre. The plaiting machines for covering stocks, as they are now covered, were first introduced from Germany and England; though they were greatly improved by the ingenuity of New England men. The first plaiting machines were barrel machines. They might be called hand-braiding machines.

The plaiting was afterwards done by machines that were worked with a crank. Sixty years ago, these were also run by water. Improvements in the plaiting machines have made it possible to run them with great rapidity. A machine will cover with its fine weaving from six to ten stocks in an hour. There

are some thirty-three firms or companies in Westfield engaged in the manufacture of whips, besides a considerable number of manufacturers of parts of whips. Two million dollars worth of whips are annually sold. Approximately one-half of this amount is received by the United States whip company, the largest in the world. The Pomeroy and Van Deusen company is reckoned

The old-fashioned plaiting machine

the second in size. Hiram Hull did much to promote the earlier development of this industry.

We name some of the more important industries that, together with the manufacture of whips, go far to make Westfield a manufacturing town:

American Cycle company, opened in 1897 as the Lozier Manufacturing company; organized in 1900 under its present name.

Employs from 400 to 800 men. Annual product, 30,000 wheels. About one-third of these exported in 1901.

Automobiles—E. J. Moore Manufacturing Co. is arranging to employ 100 men.

Loomis Manufacturing Co.—Opened in 1899; can fill but a tithe of its orders for automobiles.

The First Foundry of H. B. Smith & Co., Westfield

As established in A. D. 1853, on the line of the Farmington canal, which then extended from New Haven, Conn. to Northampton, Mass. The canal was practically closed to travel before 1850, though not filled up until many years later. This building was built and probably pictured before the canal closed. H. B. Smith began in it in 1853.

Casket Handles and Trimmings—American Casket Co. employs fifteen to twenty-five hands.

Textile Manufacturing Co.—Incorporated 1880. Capital stock $100,000. Employs about sixty hands.

Cigars—There are several cigar manufacturers. The annual output is about ten millions of cigars

The tobacco packers of Westfield handle about $750,000 worth of tobacco annually.

Westfield Brickyard—Six to ten millions of bricks annually.

Wm. Warren Thread Works—Spool cotton and thread of every description. One hundred and fifty hands.

Foster Machine Co—Incorporated 1891. Fifty to eighty hands. Produce annually from seventy-five to one hundred cane and tube winding machines, having twenty to one hundred spindles each.

Bryant Box Co.—Incorporated 1892. Paper and cigar boxes. Value of annual output, $25,000.

A. E. Ensign Box Co.—Fine cigar boxes. Established over fifty years.

Planet Co.—Manufacturers canvas goods, bags, awnings, coverings.

Organ Pipe Factory—Employs twenty men, and uses 24,000 lbs. of lead, 1,400 lbs. of tin, and 40,000 lbs. of zinc annually.

The H. B. Smith Co.—The foundation of this company was laid in Westfield, in 1853, by Henry B. and Edwin Smith, brothers, the owners of a small foundry producing iron fences mainly. In 1860, they began the manufacture of boilers. Incorporated in 1878. About five hundred hands now employed, and about seventy-five tons of iron melted per day in making boilers, radiators, cottage heaters, etc., for steam and water heating.

Church Organs.—The church organs built by Emmons Howard have received deserved recognition in the wide appreciation of his large organ exhibited at the exposition at Buffalo in 1901.

The Westfield Marble and Sandstone Co. is producing from its quarry a highly ornamental marble, which is coming into wide use.

PAPER MANUFACTURE

The first attempt to manufacture paper was made at Springdale, as the locality is now called, by the brothers Augustus E.,

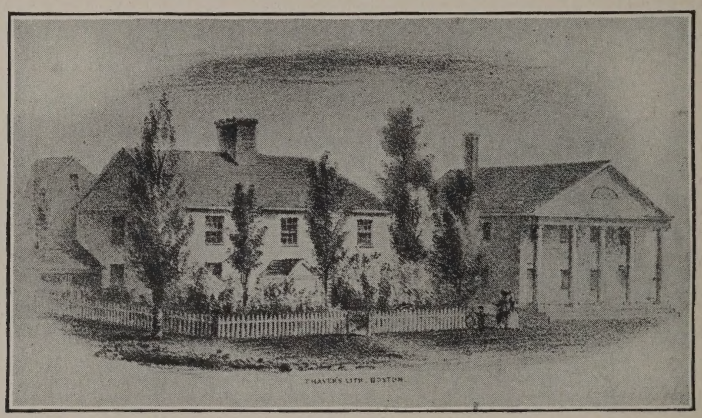
Charles A., and Alexander C. Jessup. They made paper by hand, dipping square sieves into a vat of pulp.

The Columbian Photo Paper Co. now owns the premises. Incorporated in 1890. It is said to be the only mill in the country in which paper is made from rags and completely finished for the photographer. Capacity, one ton per day.

Crane Brothers' Mills—Upper and Lower—Produce fine ledger, Japanese and other linen papers. The excellence of the product has secured a world-wide reputation. Three tons of paper per day are produced.

BANKS

First National—Organized 1864 by consolidating the First National Bank, capital $150,000, with the Westfield Bank, capital



The old Hampden Bank

From an old lithograph; showing also the house of Mrs. Messer, who conducted a fancy goods store, corner of Elm and Main streets

$100,000. The Westfield Bank was organized in 1851. Capital, $250,000; surplus, $120,000.

Hampden National—Incorporated 1825. Became a national bank in 1865. Capital, $150,000; surplus, $100,000.

Co-operative Bank—Incorporated 1881. Authorized capital, $1,000,000.

Crane's Pond

Savings Banks—Woronoco and Westfield, each having between one and two millions deposits.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

Noble Hospital—Incorporated 1893. During the five years since the building was opened, seven hundred patients have received treatment.

Shurtleff Mission—Cares for the children of the poor and destitute. Incorporated 1895. The charter requires that those having charge of the children shall "foster in their minds the spirit and teachings of the gospel."

Space forbids notice of various other associations, charitable, literary and religious connected with the churches, or maintained independently.

The Young Men's Christian association was incorporated March 10, 1891. The corner-stone of the present convenient building standing on a lot costing $10,000, was laid Oct. 15, 1900.

An active Christian Temperance union has long been maintained by ladies of Westfield.

The Board of Trade, numbering from 100 to 150, takes active interest in all that pertains to the development of the town.

The Woronoco Street Railway Co., incorporated in 1890, operates over eleven miles of track, and is projecting large extensions.

Selectmen of Westfield—As given in the town records:—

1672—Capt. Cook, Dea. Hanchett, Sergt. Dewey, John Sackett, Joseph Whiting.

1676—Isaac Phelps, Thos. Gunn, John Porter, John Ingersoll, David Ashley.

1677—Ens. Loomis, Geo. Phelps, Josiah Dewey, Isaac Phelps, Thos. Dewey, David Ashley.

1678—Lieut. Moseley, Thos. Bancroft, Jedediah Dewey.

1679—David Ashley, Josiah Dewey, Isaac Phelps.

1680—Serg't Dewey, Isaac Phelps, David Ashley.

1685—Ens. Loomis, Serg't Phelps, David Ashley.

The Noble Hospital, Westfield

1686—Cornet Dewey, Ens. Dewey, John Root.
1687-88—Isaac Phelps, Lieut. Loomis, Nathaniel Weller, Capt. Maudsley, John Sacket, Jedediah Dewey.
1689—Josiah Dewey, Samuel Root, Isaac Phelps.
1690—Isaac Phelps, Nathaniel Weller, Samuel Root.
1691-92—Lieut. Phelps, John Sacket, Nathaniel Weller.
1693—Isaac Phelps, Samuel Root, John Sacket.
1694—Deacon Dewey, Deacon Weller, David Ashley.
1695—Isaac Phelps, Samuel Root, Ens. Dewey.
1696—Dea. Weller, John Gunn, John Noble.
1697—Dea. Weller, Nathaniel Weller, Jedediah Dewey.
1698—Lieut. Root, Ensign Dewey, Deacon Weller.
1699—Jedediah Dewey, Isaac Phelps, David Ashley.
1701—Joseph Maudsley, Nathaniel Phelps, Thos. Noble.
1702—Nathaniel Phelps, Nathaniel Weller, Samuel Root.
1703—Isaac Phelps, Deacon Weller, Samuel Ashley.
1704—Isaac Phelps, Samuel Ashley, Nathaniel Phelps.
1705—Capt. Phelps, Nathaniel Phelps, Samuel Taylor.
1706—Samuel Taylor, David Dewey, Isaac Phelps.
1707—Nathaniel Weller, Isaac Phelps, Samuel Taylor.
1708-9—David Dewey, Isaac Phelps, Nathaniel Weller.
1710—Nathaniel Weller, Nathaniel Phelps, Stephen Kellogg.
1711—Nathaniel Phelps, John Root, Stephen Kellogg.
1712—David Ashley, Nathaniel Phelps, John Root.
1713—Isaac Phelps, John Root, David Ashley.
1714—
1715—Nathaniel Phelps, Thos. Noble, John Root.
1716—
1717—John Root, Capt. Moseley, Thos. Dewey.
1718—John Root, Daniel Bagg, Ens. Gunn.
1719—John Root, John Gunn, Mark Noble.
1720—Samuel Ashley, Thos. Noble, Israel Dewey.
1721—John Gunn, Thos. Ingersoll, Samuel Ashley.
1722—Thos. Noble, James Dewey, John Root.
1723—John Shepard, John Gunn, Daniel Bagg.
1724—Thos. Ingersoll, John Ashley, Samuel Bush (2d).
1725—Thos. Ingersoll, John Root, Jonathan Ashley.

1726—John Gunn, Lieut. Root, Joseph Dewey.

1727—Thos. Ingersoll, Samuel Bush (2d), Jonathan Phelps.

1728—John Gunn, John Shepard, Thos. Ingersoll.

1729—John Gunn, Consider Maudsley, Thos. Dewey.

1730—John Gunn, Samuel Fowler, Abijah Dewey, John Shepard, Consider Maudsley.

1731—John Root, John Gunn, Thos. Ingersoll, Nathaniel Bancroft, Elizur Weller.

1732—Deacon Shepard, James Dewey, Nehemiah Loomis.

1733—Thos. Ingersoll, Eldad Taylor, James Dewey.

1734—Lieut. Ingersoll, Dea. Shepard, Ensign Taylor, Lieut. Ashley, James Dewey.

1735—Dea. Shepard, Lieut. Ingersoll, Ensign Maudsley, Samuel Fowler (2d), Ens. Taylor.

1736—Samuel Fowler (2d), John Lee, Elizur Weller, Ensign Maudsley, Lieut. Ingersoll.

1737—Dea. Shepard, Ensign Maudsley, Lieut. Ingersoll, Joseph Root, David Dewey.

1738—Thos. Ingersoll, Joseph Root, Ensign Maudsley, Matthew Noble, John Gunn.

1739—Joseph Root, Ensign Taylor, Dea. Shepard, Thos. Ingersoll, John Gunn.

1740—Abijah Dewey, James Dewey, David Dewey, Matthew Noble, Samuel Fowler.

1741—James Dewey, Ensign Maudsley, Joseph Root, David Dewey, Matthew Noble.

1742—Thos. Ingersoll, Ensign Maudsley, Joseph Root, Dea. Dewey, Israel Maudsley.

1743—Ensign Maudsley, Dea. Dewey, Israel Maudsley, Ensign Taylor, Thos. Ingersoll.

1744—David Moseley, John Shepard, Dea. Taylor, David Bagg, Ensign Noble.

1745—James Dewey, David Moseley, Eldad Taylor, Thos. Ingersoll, John Shepard.

1746—Abel Cadwell, John Shepard, Capt. Ingersoll, David Moseley, Eldad Taylor.

1747—Israel Ashley, Abel Cadwell, David Moseley, John Shepard, David Weller.

1748—David Moseley, John Shepard, Abel Cadwell, Asa Noble, Stephen Nash.

1749-50—David Moseley, Aaron Phelps, Moses Dewey, Dr. Ashley, John Shepard.

1751—Jonathan Ingersoll, Israel Moseley, Israel Dewey, Ens. Noble, Stephen Nash.

1752—David Moseley, Noah Ashley, Dr. Ashley, Abel Cadwell, Jonathan Ingersoll.

1753—Noah Ashley, David Moseley, Dr. Ashley, Wm. Sacket, Abel Cadwell.

1754—David Moseley, Israel Ashley, Wm. Sacket, David Weller, Jonathan Ingersoll.

1755—David Moseley, Israel Ashley, David Weller, Jonathan Ingersoll, Wm. Sacket.

1756—David Moseley, Israel Ashley, Moses Dewey, David Weller, Wm. Sacket.

1757—Israel Ashley, Eldad Taylor, David Moseley, John Shepard, Martin Dewey.

1758—David Moseley, Israel Ashley, Martin Dewey, John Shepard, John Ingersoll.

1759—David Moseley, John Ingersoll, Ezra Clapp, Moses Dewey, Aaron King.

1760-1—Matthew Noble, Samuel Fowler, Joseph Root, Aaron King.

1762—David Moseley, John Ingersoll, John Moseley, Eldad Taylor, Samuel Fowler.

The records covering the period between 1762 and 1774 have been lost.

1774—John Ingersoll, John Bancroft, Wm. Shepard, David Fowler, Elisha Parks.

1775—Elisha Parks, John Moseley, Wm. Shepard, Eldad Taylor, Daniel Fowler.

1776—John Moseley, Daniel Fowler, Daniel Bagg, Dr. Mather, Daniel Sacket.

1777—David Moseley, Daniel Sacket, Benjamin Saxton, Martin Root, Samuel Mather.

1778—John Ingersoll, Bohan King, David Weller, jr., Daniel Fowler, John Kellogg.

1779—John Kellogg, Israel Ashley, David Moseley, David Weller, Elisha Parks.

1780—Israel Ashley, Daniel Sacket, Samuel Fowler, Israel Dewey, Esquire Ingersoll.

1781—Dr. Ashley, Samuel Fowler, James Taylor, Deacon Dewey, Esquire Ingersoll.

1782—Capt. Sacket, Dr. Ashley, Samuel Fowler, Capt. Taylor, Aaron Dewey.

1783—John Ingersoll, Samuel Fowler, John Bancroft, Bildad Fowler, jr., Noah Phelps.

1784—John Ingersoll, Capt. Bancroft, Col. Shepard, Israel Ashley, Samuel Fowler.

1785—Wm. Shepard, Israel Ashley, David Moseley, Dr. Whitney, John Ingersoll.

1786—Samuel Fowler, Col. Shepard, Col. Moseley, Dr. Whitney, Jedediah Taylor.

1787—David Moseley, Gen. Shepard, Samuel Fowler, Dr. Whitney, Jedediah Taylor.

1788-9—Samuel Fowler, John Bancroft, John Phelps, Gad Noble, Ezra Clapp.

1790-91—Samuel Fowler, Wm. Shepard, John Phelps, Warham Parks, Aaron Dewey.

1792—Aaron Dewey, Wm. Shepard, Bohan King, Zachariah Bush, jr., Paul Whitney.

1793—Aaron Dewey, Paul Whitney, Zachariah Bush.

1794—Zachariah Bush, Aaron Dewey, Paul Whitney, Wm. Shepard, James Taylor.

1795-6—Wm. Shepard, James Taylor, Warham Parks, Zachariah Bush, jr., Zadock Martindale.

1797-8—James Taylor, Warham Parks, Abel Whitney, Silas Bush, John Dewey.

1799—Warham Parks, James Taylor, Silas Bush.

1800—James Taylor, John Dewey, Silas Bush, Jedediah Taylor, Gen. Parks.

1801—Jedediah Taylor, John Dewey, James Taylor, Silas Bush, Wm. Moseley.

1802—Jedediah Taylor, Israel Ashley, Wm. Moseley.

1803-4—Israel Ashley, Jedediah Taylor, Wm. Moseley, Silas Bush, Solomon Phelps.

1805-7—Silas Bush, Jedediah Taylor, Solomon Phelps, Frederick Fowler, Isaac Ensign.

1808—Solomon Phelps, Jedediah Taylor, Silas Bush.

1809—Silas Bush, Jedediah Taylor, Frederick Fowler, Benjamin Hastings, Enoch Holcomb.

1810—Silas Bush, Benjamin Hastings, Enoch Holcomb, Azariah Moseley, Frederick Fowler.

1811—Frederick Fowler, Jedediah Taylor, Enoch Holcomb, Azariah Moseley, Benjamin Hastings.

1812—Jedediah Taylor, Frederick Fowler, Azariah Moseley.

1813-14—Jedediah Taylor, Frederick Fowler, Azariah Moseley, Ambrose Day, Isaac Allen.

1815—Azariah Moseley, Frederick Fowler, David King, Jacob Cooper, Roswell Dewey.

1816—Frederick Fowler, Azariah Moseley, David King, Isaac Allen, Roswell Dewey.

1817—Roswell Dewey, Azariah Moseley, Eager Noble, Wm. Atwater, Isaac Allen.

1818—Wm. Atwater, Eager Noble, Jared Noble, Ambrose Day, Isaac Allen.

1819—Wm. Atwater, Eager Noble, Jared Noble, Ambrose Day, Elisha G. Cook.

1820—Azariah Moseley, Ambrose Day, Jas. Fowler, Eager Noble, Elisha G. Cook.

1821-2—James Fowler, Elisha G. Cook, Azariah Moseley.

1823—Ambrose Day, Warham Shepard, Elisha G. Cook, Henry Fowler, Wm. Hooker.

1824—Ambrose Day, Warham Shepard, Elisha G. Cook, Jas. Fowler, Roland Taylor.

1825—James Fowler, Ambrose Day, Elisha G. Cook, Elijah Arnold, Eager Noble.

1826—Elisha G. Cook, Chas. Douglas, Harvey Champion, Warham Shepard, John Shepard.

1827—Chas. Douglas, Harvey Champion, John Shepard, Ransford Allen, Wm. Atwater.

1828—Chas. Douglas, Wm. Atwater, John Shepard, Sylvanus G. Morley, Sturges Upson.

1829—Sylvanus G. Morley, Asahel Bush, John Shepard, Sturges Upson, Lewis Fowler.

1830—Asahel Bush, Sturges Upson, Lewis Fowler, Chauncey Pease, Joshua Loomis.

1831—Asahel Bush, Sturges Upson, John Shepard, Thomas Ashley, Wm. Sibley.

1832—Asahel Bush, Chauncey Pease, Thos. Loomis, Ezra Allen, George Taylor.

1833—Chauncey Pease, Henry Douglas, S. G. Morley, Lucas Cowles, Adna Avery.

1834—Asahel Bush, Chauncey Pease, Thomas Loomis, Chas. Noble, Adna Avery.

1835—Asahel Bush, Chauncey Pease, Thomas Loomis, Geo. Taylor, Adna Avery.

1836—Lucius Wright, Asa B. Whitman, Geo. W. Noble, Israel Sackett, Thos. Loomis.

1837—Lucius Wright, Asa B. Whitman, Israel Sacket.

1838—Lucius Wright, Israel Sackett, Ashbel Dewey, Chas. Dewey, Orin Cowles.

1839—Asa B. Whitman, David Moseley, Lucius Wright, Orin Cowles, Ashbel Dewey.

1840—David Moseley, Hiram Harrison, Roswell Sherman, David Drake, Salmon Ensign.

1841—David Moseley, Roswell Sherman, Salmon Ensign, David Drake, Wm. Noble, jr.

1842-3—David Moseley, Lewis Fowler, Martin Sackett, Chauncey Pease, Alonzo Allen.

1844—David Moseley, Joseph M. Ely, Stephen Harrison, Micajah Taylor, Alonzo Allen.

1845—Dennis Hedges, Joseph Arnold, Geo. H. Moseley.

1846—Dennis Hedges, Geo. H. Moseley, Horace Root, Edwin Brewer, Jason Fox.

1847—Dennis Hedges, Geo. H. Moseley, Horace Root, Edwin Brewer, Jason Fox.

1848-9—Joseph M. Ely, Stephen Harrison, Geo. Sackett, Jas. Noble, Frederick Morgan.

1850—Joseph M. Ely, Geo. Sackett, Fred'k Morgan, Stephen Harrison, Jas. Noble.

1851—Geo. Noble, Dennis Hedges, Wm. Moseley, Silas Root, Ebenezer W. Cook.

1852—Dennis Hedges, Wm. Moseley, E. W. Cook, Geo. W. Noble, Silas Root.

1853—Francis S. Eggleston, Jehial Shepard, G. W. Noble, Frederick Fowler, Dennis Hedges.

1854—Henry Fuller, Frederick Fowler, Jehial Shepard, F. S. Eggleston, Geo. W. Noble.

1855—Silas Root, J. S. Knowles, Thos. Cowles, Barnum Perry, E. W. Cook.

1856—Samuel Horton, Thos. Kneil, Thos. Cowles, L. B. Blood, Chas. Fowler.

1857—Caleb Alden, Dennis Hedges, Joseph Arnold, Franklin Arthur, Merwin Loomis.

1858—Hiram Hull, Geo. H. Moseley, Joseph Arnold.

1859-60—Hiram Hull, Geo. H. Moseley, Seth Bush.

1861—L. C. Gillett, Hiram Hull, Seth Bush.

1862—L. C. Gillett, Reuben Loomis, Wm. Provin.

1863—Wm. Provin, L. C. Gillett, L. F. Thayer.

1864—L. F. Thayer, L. F. Root, Wm. Provin.

1865—H. B. Lewis, Elihu Gaylord, Wm. Provin.

1866-67—H. B. Lewis, Elihu Gaylord, Geo. E. Knapp.

1868—Wm. Provin, Elihu Gaylord, John Fowler.

1869—H. B. Lewis, John Fowler, Chas. H. Bush.

1870—F. S. Egleston, J. M. Ely, Daniel Fowler.

1871—Alexander McKenzie, F. S. Egleston, Elihu Gaylord.

1872—F. S. Egleston, Jos. S. Clark, E. P. Parks.

1873-74—F. S. Egleston, Jos. S. Clark, M. R. Van Deusen.

1875—F. S. Egleston, Jos. S. Clark, W. S. Bush.

1876—L. F. Thayer, Wm. S. Bush, Alexander McKenzie.
1877—L. F. Thayer, Wm. S. Bush, L. F. Root.
1878—L. F. Thayer, Jos. S. Clark, L. F. Root.
1879—L. F. Thayer, David Lamberton, E. C. Carpenter.
1880—L. F. Thayer, E. C. Carpenter, Seth Bush.
1881—Wm. Provin, jr., I. H. Plumley, G. H. Moseley.
1882—Edwin Hedges, Frank F. Arthur, John Fowler.
1883—Edwin Hedges, Frank F. Arthur, John Fowler.
1884—Edwin Hedges, C. D. Allen, John Fowler.

Soldiers' Monument

1885—Edwin Hedges, C. D. Allen, John Fowler.
1886—Edwin Hedges, C. D. Allen, John Fowler.
1887—Edwin Hedges, W. H. Foote, T. B. Moseley.
1888—W. C. Clark, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Root.
1889—W. C. Clark, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Root.
1890—Jas. P. Freeman, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Root.
1891—Jas. P. Freeman, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Thayer.
1892—Jas. P. Freeman, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Thayer.
1893—Jas. P. Freeman, T. B. Moseley, L. F. Thayer.

1894—Edwin Hedges, T. B. Moseley, James P. Freeman.
1895—Olin C. Towle, Orrin A. Granger, Jas. P. Freeman.
1896—Orrin A. Granger, Jas. P. Freeman, Thos. B. Moseley.
1897—Orrin A. Granger, Jas. P. Freeman, Thos. B. Moseley.
1898—Orrin A. Granger, Jas. P. Freeman, Thos. B. Moseley.
1899—Chas. H. Beals, Jas. P. Freeman, Thos. B. Moseley.
1900—R. J. Morrissey, Jas. P. Freeman, Thos. B. Moseley.
1901—R. J. Morrissey, Jas. P. Freeman, Wm. S. Bush.
1902—James H. Clark, George H. Loomis, Wm. S. Bush.

TOWN CLERKS

1693—John Ashley.
1694—Joseph Sexton.
1695-1702—Isaac Phelps.
1702-1705—Joseph Sexton.
1705-1715—Isaac Phelps.
1715-1731—John Root.
1731-1747—John Gunn.
1747-1763—Eldad Taylor.
1763-1774—Record wanting.
1774-1777—Eldad Taylor.
1777-1781—Samuel Mather.
1781—Samuel Fowler.
1782-1788—Israel Ashley.
1788—Samuel Fowler.
1789—Israel Ashley.
1790-1795—Paul Whitney.
1796—John Atwater.
1797-1799—Abel Whitney.
1799-1813—John Ingersoll.
1813-1815—Chas. Douglas.
1815-1817—William Blair.
1817-1823—David King.
1823-1826—Alfred Stearns.

1826—Eli B. Hamilton.
1827—Matthew Ives, jr.
1828—Chas. Douglas.
1829-1832—Matthew Ives, jr.
1832-1834—Homer Holland.
1834-1836—Joseph S. Stebbins.
1836-1842—Norman T. Leonard.
1842-1845—Wm. O. Fletcher.
1845-1847—Reuben Noble.
1848—Hiram A. Beebe.
1848-1850—Asahel Bush.
1850-1852—Henry C. Moseley.
1852-1854—Gilbert W. Cobb.
1854—Geo. R. Whitman.
1855-1865—P. H. Boise.
1865-1868—Dwight W. Stowell.
1868—Geo. H. Douglas.
1869—Wm. H. Foote.
1870-1874—R. B. Robinson.
1874-1879—E. W. Dickerman.
1879-1888—D. M. Chace.
1888—March to August, 1888, E. Axtell.
1888—August, Charles N. Oakes (present town clerk).

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT

from 1671 to 1876, when Westfield became a part of the 10th Representative District.

J. F. Hull, Thos. Dewey, John Ashley, Daniel Bagg, John Moseley, Elisha Parks, Joseph Lyman, Isaac Phelps, James Taylor, John Ingersoll, Ashbel Eager, Jedediah Taylor, Benjamin Hastings, Frederick Fowler, Azariah Moseley, Wm. Blair, James Fowler, David King, Wm. Atwater, Alfred Stearns, Elijah Arnold, Chas. Douglas, David Wright, Aaron Sibley, Matthew Ives, Jesse Farnam, Henry Douglas, Eli B. Hamilton, Henry Fowler, Joseph S. Avery, Elias Cadwell, Lewis Fowler, Asahel Bush, Henry Champion, Chauncey Pease, Thos. Loomis, Joseph

Hedges, Asa B. Whitman, Lucius Wright, Joseph Arnold, David Moseley, Jonah L. Gross, Norman T. Leonard, Dennis Hedges, Samuel R. B. Lewis, Geo. Sackett, Hiram Harrison, Oliver Moseley, Chauncey Colton, Hiram Fox, Royal Fowler, Hiram A. Beebe, Israel Sackett, Josiah S. Knowles, Daniel D. Erving, Hiram Hull, Geo. H. Moseley, Jas. Noble 2d, James Holland, Luke Bush, Henry Fuller, D. N. Goff, Geo. Green, Addison Gage, Jasper R. Rand, David M. Chase, Lewis R. Norton, Henry J. Bush, Thos. Kneil, Jas. R. Gladwin, Chas. Dickerman, William G. Bates, Samuel Horton, Alexander McKenzie, Reuben Noble, L. B. Walkley.

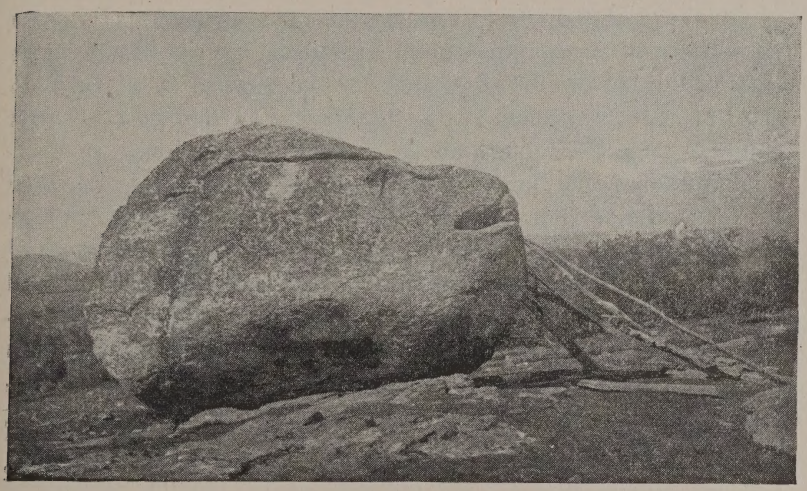
CHAPTER IX

THE TOWN OF BRIMFIELD

The town of Brimfield, comprising something more than 21,500 acres, lies on the eastern line of Hampden county. It is bounded on the north by the town of Warren, Worcester county; east by the town of Sturbridge, Worcester county; south by the towns of Wales and Tolland; and on the west by Monson and Palmer. Straight lines define the boundaries on the west, south and east sides, while the northern boundary is irregular, being formed in part by the Quaboag river, by which Brimfield is separated from the town of Palmer. The land is high, forming part of the watershed between the Thames and Connecticut rivers. The highest elevations in the town are some 1,200 feet above the sea level. There are no mountains, strictly speaking, but in the western portion of the town a well-defined range of hills rises to a height of 500 or 600 feet at the highest points. On one of the highest summits of this range a massive bowlder bears the distinctive name of "Steerage rock." This eminence commands a wide view over the surrounding country, and tradition ascribes the name of the rock to the fact that it was visited by

the Indians, when journeying through the regions, that they might take correct bearings for any point which they desired to reach. Perhaps to facilitate these observations, the surrounding hills had been burned over, so that at the time of the first survey by white men, preparatory to settlement, the timber on the hills had been destroyed, while the valleys were principally covered by a strong growth of native grasses.

The first steps toward the settlement of what became the town of Brimfield were taken in the year 1701, when on the 20th of June the general court, in compliance with the petition of



Steerage Rock

twenty-one citizens of Springfield, appointed a "prudential committee" of five Springfield men—Major John Pynchon, Captain Thomas Colton, James Warriner, David Morgan, and Joseph Stebbins—to lay out a new township, to the eastward of Springfield, to allot lands, and to have the general management of the affairs of the settlement. The township was to be eight miles square, and grants of land were to be made to sixty families, or to seventy, if so many could be accommodated; but no more than 120 acres were to be assigned to any one person

The committee, accompanied by twenty other persons from Springfield, visited the region on the 22d of September, 1701, and spent some time in the selection of a town site. The location first chosen was what is known as Grout's hill, now in the town of Monson; but further investigation showed better land lying near the eastern side of the township, and the site was changed accordingly. Thirteen grants of land were made December 31, following, on condition that work thereon should be begun the next spring, but this agreement was not carried out, and nothing further was done for some years. The war existing between England and France, the hostile disposition of the Indians, and the distance of Brimfield from the stronger settlements, exposed its settlers to many dangers, and the development of the township proceeded but slowly. In 1717 the general court, on petition, extended the town limits three miles further east, so as to embrace some desirable land lying in that direction.

The tract thus laid out included the territory now covered by the towns of Brimfield, Monson, Wales and Holland, as well as certain tracts since included within the limits of Warren and of Palmer. Monson was incorporated as a district in 1760, and became a town in 1775; Wales and Holland originally constituted the district of South Brimfield. The former was made a district September 18, 1762, and became the town of Wales February 20, 1828. Holland was incorporated as a district July 5, 1783, and as a town May 1, 1836.

Owing to the slow development of the new township, so much dissatisfaction arose that the general court was petitioned to appoint a new committee, and this was done June 12, 1723, the following persons being named: Hon. John Chandler, Henry Dwight, Esq., and Joseph Jennings. Six years later, in September, 1729, this committee made a report, recommending annulment of the grants of land made by the former committee, and a new allotment. This action naturally caused consternation. The recommendation elicited strong protest from those likely to be affected, and they addressed to the general court a memorial setting forth the injustice which would be done them if thus deprived of lands which they had improved "with great hazard

of their lives and substance, living on and defending the same.'' The matter was settled on the 18th of June, 1731, by an act of the general court confirming grants of 120 acres each made by the first committee to ''Nathaniel Hitchcock, Ebenezer Graves, David Hitchcock, Benjamin Cooley, Leonard Hoar, Captain John Sherman, David Morgan and Nathan Collins, and one to one of the sons of each of them; to Deliverance Brooks, Daniel Hubbard, John Atcheson, and one to his son; one to Park Williams in his own right, and one purchased by him, originally granted to Robert Old; one to John Stebbins, William Wilson, and John Charles, and likewise one to each of their sons; one to John Lumbard, David Lumbard, Samuel Hubbard, Peter Haynes, Joseph Haynes, Peter Montague, Henry Burt, Thomas Stebbins, the heirs of William Nichols, Micah Townsley, Eleazer Foot, William Warriner, James Thompson, heirs of Francis Baxter, George Erwin, Joseph Frost, David Shaw, John *alias* Daniel Burt, Joshua Shaw, Samuel Bliss, Thomas Foot and assigns, John Keep, Samuel Allen, Nathaniel Miller, Ezra King, Robert Old, Samuel King, Anthony Needham, Robert Moulton, Robert Moulton, Jr., John Wilson, John Danielson, John Miller, John Mighill, Joseph Davis, Benjamin Warner, Daniel Graves, Benjamin Mun, Daniel Fuller, Nathaniel Clark and John Bullen, amounting to 169 lots of 120 acres each. To Samuel Munger, Thomas Green, Joshua Old, Ebenezer Scott, Mark Ferrey, Samuel Allen, Jr., Samuel Shaw, Seth Shaw and Daniel Killum, each a home lot of sixty acres, already laid out, and if any of them should be found to have more than that amount, to retain the same, the surplus to be deducted from their after rights. To Rev. Mr. Treat, the minister of the town, a lot of 120 acres, with all after rights; also a lot to Samuel Chandler, son of John Chandler, who had built a house here; one to Seth Dwight, son of Henry Dwight, and one to Joseph Jennings, in consideration of their services as a prudential committee; also to William Pynchon and Obadiah Cooley, who, although they did not reside on the grants, 'did provide some materials for finishing the meeting-house, and have since made some improvements thereon'; also a lot to them jointly, 'in consideration that they provide iron-work

for the first sawmill, they drawing no after rights.' Also to Captain George Colton and David Ingersole a lot 'in consideration of their having provided nails of all sorts, sufficient for finishing the meeting-house'; also to the heirs of Lieut. Col. Pynchon, Captain Thomas Colton, James Warriner, David Morgan and Joseph Stebbins, all deceased, and to Pelatiah Glover, 120 acres each, without any after rights. To Thomas Ingersole, in consideration of expenses incurred on the first committee; to Thomas Mirrick, Thomas Mirrick, Jr., the heirs of Nathaniel Sikes, Increase Sikes, Samuel Keep and Tilly Merrick, in consideration of money paid, lots were granted and confirmed without after rights or divisions. The claims rejected were those of William Brewer, William Hamilton, Patrick Marshall, Andrew Bayley, Pelatiah Glover, Jr., John Evans, and Ebenezer Cooley.'' It was further directed by the general court that after these grants were satisfied the remaining lands should belong to the grantees, and be proportionately divided, with after rights, and that the inhabitants should enjoy all the rights and privileges of other towns in the province.

The grantees under this act practically included all of the first settlers of the town, and their family names bear an honorable part in the history of the town for many generations. In order properly to award the lands, some twenty roads or highways were authorized; but as courses and distances were not made matters of record for many years, the descriptions were often perplexing to parties interested, as well as amusing in the later reading, as for instance: ''Across land of Joshua Shaw, where there is the best going, leading from a big rock in the line of said Joshua's plain lot to a black-oak staddle over a squeachy place.''

The first town meeting, on a warrant issued by John Sherman, under authority from the general court, was held March 16, 1731, while the matter of land grants still remained unsettled. The full list of officers then elected was as follows: Town clerk, Robert Moulton; selectmen, Robert Moulton, John Stebbins, Ezra King, David Morgan, and David Shaw; treasurer, John Stebbins; assessors, Joseph Blodgett, Joseph Haynes, and David

Hitchcock; constables, George Charles and John Erwen; surveyors of highways, James Thompson, Joseph Frost, Samuel Allen, and Nathan Collins; tithingmen, Ebenezer Scott and Henry Burt; fence-viewers, Thomas Stebbins, John Nelson, and John Keep; hog-reeves, Samuel Bliss and Benjamin Cooley. A sealer of leather was chosen in 1736, a sealer of weights and measures in 1738, a packer of beef and pork in 1771, a culler of shingles and staves in 1793, while field drivers were not elected until 1823.

West Brimfield at the bridge

John Stebbins, Robert Moulton and David Shaw were elected May 4, 1731, to represent the interests of the town before the general court, and on the 24th of the same month Robert Moulton was chosen as the representative of the town to the general court, as the legislature was then designated.

The offices of selectmen, town clerk, and representative (until 1812, when the district system of representation was adopted) have been filled by the following persons:

Selectmen—1731, Robert Moulton, John Stebbins, Ezra King, David Morgan, David Shaw; 1732, Robert Moulton, John Stebbins, John Sherman, John Russell, William Nelson; 1733, Robert Moulton, John Sherman, John Russell, William Nelson, Joshua Shaw; 1734, John Stebbins, John Sherman, Ebenezer Graves, Leonard Hoar, Benjamin Cooley; 1735, John Sherman, Ebenezer Graves, Nathaniel Hitchcock, John Keep, Joseph Blodgett; 1736, John Stebbins, John Sherman, John Russell, David Hitchcock, Nicholas Graves; 1737, Ezra King, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, Joseph Haynes, William Warriner; 1738, John Stebbins, Benjamin Cooley, Nathaniel Hitchcock, Joseph Blodgett, Samuel King; 1739, John Stebbins, John Sherman, William Nelson, David Hitchcock, Nathaniel Miller; 1740, John Stebbins, John Sherman, William Nelson, Nathaniel Miller; 1741, John Sherman, James Merrick, Henry Burt, Nathan Collins, John Mighell; 1742, John Stebbins, John Sherman, John Russell, Joseph Blodgett, Nicholas Graves; 1743, John Russell, Nathaniel Miller, John Mighell, Thomas Stebbins, Benjamin Morgan; 1744, John Stebbins, John Russell, Joseph Blodgett, David Hitchcock, John Mighell; 1745, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, Benjamin Cooley, John Mighill, Thomas Stebbins; 1746, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, David Hitchcock, Anthony Needham, Joseph Davis; 1747, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, Samuel King, Thomas Stebbins, Anthony Needham; 1748, Robert Moulton, Joseph Blodgett, George Colton, Joseph Hoar, Thomas Ellingwood; 1749, Robert Moulton, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, John Keep, Enoch Hides; 1750, John Sherman, Joseph Blodgett, Thomas Stebbins, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt; 1751, John Sherman, Joshua Shaw, Samuel King, Joseph Hoar, John Danielson; 1752, John Sherman, James Merrick, George Colton; 1753, John Sherman, Leonard Hoar, Joseph Blodgett, George Colton, Enoch Hides; 1754, John Keep, Luke Blashfield, Noah Hitchcock, Adonijah Russell; 1755, Samuel King, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman; 1756, John Sherman, Thomas Stebbins, Daniel Burt, Samuel Moulton; 1757, Samuel King, Anthony Needham, Daniel Burt, Luke Blashfield; 1758, Joseph Davis, Noah Hitchcock, Francis Sikes, Edward Bond; 1759,

Thomas Stebbins, Joseph Davis, Daniel Burt, Samuel Nichols; 1760, Joseph Blodgett, Daniel Burt, Adonijah Russell, Edward Bond, Jonathan Ferry; 1761, Joseph Hoar, Samuel Nichols, James Lawrence, Jonathan Janes, Joseph Hitchcock; 1762, Joseph Blodgett, Anthony Needham, Joseph Hoar, Noah Hitchcock; 1763, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt, Moses Hitchcock, Jonathan Charles, Benjamin Merrick; 1764, Joseph Davis, Adonijah Russell, Edward Bond, Jonathan Janes, Timothy Danielson; 1765, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt, Adonijah Russell, Timothy Danielson, James Sherman; 1766, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt, Adonijah Russell, Timothy Danielson, James Sherman; 1767, Joseph Hoar, Adonijah Russell, Bezaleel Sherman, Samuel Nichols, Timothy Danielson; 1768, Joseph Hoar, Adonijah Russell, Bezaleel Sherman, Samuel Nichols, Timothy Danielson; 1769, Thomas Ellingwood, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Joseph Hitchcock, Joseph Browning; 1770, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Joseph Hitchcock, Timothy Danielson; 1771, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Samuel Nichols, Timothy Danielson, Joseph Browning; 1772, Joseph Hoar, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Timothy Danielson, James Bridgham; 1773, Joseph Hoar, Bezaleel Sherman, Timothy Danielson, James Bridgham, Jonathan Brown; 1774, Joseph Hoar, Bezaleel Sherman, Timothy Danielson, Joseph Browning, James Bridgham; 1775, Thomas Ellingwood, Daniel Burt, Joseph Browning, James Bridgham, Joseph Hoar, Jr.; 1776, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Samuel Nichols, Timothy Danielson, James Brigham; 1777, Daniel Burt, Bezaleel Sherman, Timothy Danielson, Joseph Browning, Jonathan Thompson; 1778, Jonathan Brown, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Thomas Lombard, Simeon Hubbard, William Janes; 1779, Daniel Burt, Joseph Browning, Jonathan Brown, Jonathan Thompson, Aaron Mighill; 1780, Daniel Burt, Jonathan Brown, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Charles, Abner Morgan; 1781, Joseph Browning, Jonathan Brown, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Mighill, Aaron Charles; 1782, Daniel Burt, Joseph Browning, Jonathan Brown, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Mighill; 1783, Daniel Burt, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Simeon Hubbard, Samuel Bates; 1784, Daniel Burt, Joseph Hitchcock, Joseph Browning, Aaron Mighill, Sam-

uel Bates; 1785, Daniel Burt, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Samuel Bates, Issachar Brown; 1786, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Mighill, Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, John Carpenter; 1787, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, Alexander Sessions, Medad Hitchcock; 1788, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Mighill, Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, David Morgan; 1789, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Aaron Mighill, Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, David Morgan; 1790, Joseph Browning, Simeon Hubbard, Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, David Morgan; 1791, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, Samuel Sherman; 1792, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Samuel Bates, David Morgan, Jonas Blodgett; 1793, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Samuel Bates, David Morgan; 1794, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, Alexander Sessions, Jonas Blodgett; 1795, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Issachar Brown, Jonas Blodgett; 1796, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Samuel Sherman; 1797, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Jonas Blodgett; 1798, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Aaron Morgan, Joseph Moffat; 1799, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Aaron Morgan, Joseph Moffat; 1800, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Aaron Morgan, Joseph Moffat; 1801, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Aaron Morgan, Joseph Moffat; 1802, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Medad Hitchcock, Aaron Morgan, Joseph Moffat; 1803, Joseph Browning, Joseph Hoar, Jr., Abner Morgan, Aaron Morgan, Philemon Warren; 1804, Joseph Browning, Abner Morgan, Aaron Morgan, Philemon Warren; 1805, Stephen Pynchon, Thomas Sherman, Alfred Allen, Benjamin Sherman; 1806, Stephen Pynchon, Thomas Sherman, Alfred Allen, Benjamin Sherman; 1807, Abner Morgan, Thomas Sherman, Benjamin Sherman, Joseph D. Browning; 1808, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Joseph D. Browning, Reuben Patrick; 1809, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Joseph D. Browning, Jacob Bishop; 1810, Abner Morgan, Stephen Pynchon,

Thomas Sherman, Benjamin Sherman, Abner Stebbins; 1811, Abner Morgan, Philemon Warren, Darius Charles, David Hoar; 1812, Philemon Warren, Stephen Pynchon, Darius Charles, David Hoar; 1813, Philemon Warren, Stephen Pynchon, Cyrus Janes, James Blodgett; 1814, Issachar Brown, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Joseph D. Browning; 1815, Issachar Brown, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Joseph D. Browning; 1816, Stephen Pynchon, Alfred Allen, Daniel Nichols, Marquis Converse; 1817, Issachar Brown, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Marquis Converse, Asa Lincoln; 1818, Stephen Pynchon, Benjamin Sherman, Cyrus Janes, Marquis Converse, Asa Lincoln; 1819, Abner Morgan, Joseph D. Browning, Darius Charles, Asa Lincoln, Ichabod Bliss; 1820, Stephen Pynchon, Daniel Burt, Samuel Brown, Simeon Coye, John Wyles; 1821, Stephen Pynchon, Daniel Burt, Samuel Brown, Simeon Coye, John Wyles; 1822, Cyrus Janes, Asa Lincoln, Simeon Coye, John Wyles, William W. Thompson; 1823, Benjamin Sherman, Cyrus Janes, Asa Lincoln, Simeon Coye, Lewis Williams; 1824, Benjamin Sherman, Simeon Coye, Lewis Williams, Thomas Merrick, Justin Morgan; 1825, Benjamin Sherman, Marquis Converse, John Wyles, Lewis Williams, Justin Morgan; 1826, Darius Charles, John Wyles, Lewis Williams, Justin Morgan, Oliver Blair; 1827, Asa Lincoln, Lewis Williams, Oliver Blair, Julius Burt, Lyman Bruce; 1828, Asa Lincoln, Lewis Williams, Oliver Blair, Julius Burt, Lyman Bruce; 1829, Asa Lincoln, Oliver Blair, Julius Burt, Col. Dauphin Brown, Robert Andrews; 1830, Darius Charles, Simeon Coye, Col. Dauphin Brown, Robert Andrews, Festus Foster; 1831, Julius Burt, Col. Dauphin Brown, Cyril R. Brown, Augustus Janes, John M. Warren; 1832, Darius Charles, Simeon Coye, Festus Foster, Royal Wales, Absalom Lombard; 1833, Royal Wales, Absalom Lombard, Linus Hoar, Lemuel Lombard, Nathaniel Parker; 1834, Festus Foster, Linus Hoar, Issacher Brown, Jr., Moses Tyler, Johnson Bixby; 1835, Festus Foster, Linus Hoar, Issachar Brown, Jr., Moses Tyler, Johnson Bixby; 1836, Festus Foster, Linus Hoar, Abner Hitchcock, Parsons Allen, Penuel Parker; 1837, Festus Foster, Linus Hoar, Abner Hitchcock, Parson Allen, Penuel Parker; 1838,

Asa Lincoln, Augustus Janes, Abner Hitchcock, Parsons Allen, Samuel Tarbell, Ebenezer Fairbanks; 1839, Ebenezer Knight, Samuel A. Hitchcock, Darius Shaw, James Fenton, William J. Sherman; 1840, Ebenezer Knight, James Fenton, Harvey Fenton, Lewis Stebbins, Orson Sherman, Albigence Newell; 1841, John Wyles, Cyril R. Brown, James Fenton, Orson Sherman, Abram Charles, Sumner Parker; 1842, Asa Lincoln, Cyril R. Brown, James Fenton, Harvey Janes, Nathan F. Robinson, Solomon Homer, Jr.; 1843, Asa Lincoln, Augustus Janes, James Fenton, Fitz Henry Warren, Lemuel Allen, George Puffer; 1844, Absalom Lombard, Parsons Allen, James Fenton, Lemuel Allen, George Puffer, Abner Brown; 1845, Cyril R. Brown, James Fenton, Alvin Janes, Alfred Hitchcock, James Tourtellott; 1846, Abner Brown, Darius Shaw, Harvey Fenton, Austin Andrews, Leonard Henshaw; 1847, William J. Sherman, Orson Sherman, Sumner Parker, Alured Homer, Philip G. Hubbard; 1848, Paul W. Paige, Lyman Upham, Augustus Wheeler, Francis D. Lincoln, Cheney Newton; 1849, Johnson Bixby, Sumner Parker, Lyman Upham, Wilson Homer, Joseph C. Hunter; 1850, Abram Charles, Nathan F. Robinson, Joseph C. Hunter, Jairus Walker, Jonathan Emerson; 1851, Penuel Parker, Sumner Parker, Lemuel Allen, Ezra Perry, 3d, Calvin B. Brown; 1852, Sumner Parker, Warren F. Tarbell, Ambrose N. Merrick, Alfred L. Converse, Thomas J. Morgan; 1853, Nathan F. Robinson, Alured Homer, Elam Ferry, William G. Tarbell, Alfred Lombard; 1854, Henry F. Brown, Gilman Noyes, Aaron B. Lyman, Orra Parker, Dauphin Brown; 1855, Calvin B. Brown, Warren F. Tarbell, Gilman Noyes, Alden Goodell, James S. Blair; 1856, Gilman Noyes, Edward W. Potter, William H. Wyles, Samuel N. Coye, Samuel W. Brown; 1857, Parsons Allen, Gilman Noyes, Edward W. Potter, William H. Wyles, Braman Sibley; 1858, Parsons Allen, William H. Wyles, Samuel W. Brown, Newton S. Hubbard, Pliny F. Spaulding; 1859, Jonathan Emerson, Orra Parker, William H. Wyles, James B. Brown, George C. Homer; 1860, Sumner Parker, William H. Wyles, Newton S. Hubbard; 1861, Sumner Parker, William H. Wyles, Newton S. Hubbard; 1862, Sumner Parker, William H. Wyles, Edwin A. Janes; 1863, Sumner Parker, James S.

Blair, William H. Wyles; 1864, Sumner Parker, Thomas J. Morgan, William H. Wyles; 1865, Warren F. Tarbell, William H. Wyles, James B. Brown; 1866, Cyril R. Brown, Cheney Newton, Porter A. Parker; 1867, Sumner Parker, Cheney Newton, James S. Blair; 1868, Cheney Newton, Dauphin Brown, James B. Brown; 1869, Samuel W. Brown, Ephraim Fenton, Abram Charles; 1870, Newton S. Hubbard, George Bacon, Francis E. Cook; 1871, Pliny F. Spaulding, James B. Brown, John W. Lawrence; 1872, Samuel W. Brown, James B. Brown, John W. Lawrence; 1873, James S. Blair, James B. Brown, Albert S. Prouty; 1874, James B. Brown, Porter A. Parker, Moses H. Baker; 1875, Newton S. Hubbard, Porter A. Parker, Moses H. Baker; 1876, Newton S. Hubbard, James B. Brown, Porter A. Parker; 1877, James B. Brown, Moses H. Baker, Charles F. Spaulding; 1878, Cheney Newton, Charles F. Spaulding, Moses H. Baker; 1879, Cheney Newton, Moses H. Baker, Pliny F. Spaulding; 1880, James B. Brown, Pliny F. Spaulding, Dwight P. Allen; 1881, Cheney Newton, Samuel W. Brown, Edward Bliss; 1882, Sanford Booth, Moses H. Baker, Oscar F. Brown; 1883, Moses H. Baker, Sanford Booth, Edwin H. Morgan; 1884, Moses H. Baker, Frank R. Newton, John C. Spring; 1885, Moses H. Baker, Frank R. Newton, Daniel W. Janes; 1886, Moses H. Baker, Frank R. Newton, Daniel W. Janes; 1887, Frank R. Newton, Oscar F. Brown, Josiah Stebbins; 1888, Frank R. Newton, Oscar F. Brown, Josiah Stebbins; 1889, Oscar F. Brown, Josiah Stebbins, Orrin Hicks; 1890, Oscar F. Brown, Josiah Stebbins, Orrin Hicks; 1891, Frank R. Newton, Moses H. Baker, Orrin Hicks; 1892, Frank R. Newton, Moses H. Baker, F. Edgar Brown; 1893, Frank R. Newton, Moses H. Baker, F. Edgar Brown; 1894, Frank R. Newton, Arthur D. Brown, Charles C. Brown; 1895, Arthur B. Brown, Charles C. Brown, Moses H. Baker; 1896, Newton Hubbard, Arthur B. Brown, George W. Sherman; 1897, Moses H. Baker, Arthur B. Brown, George W. Sherman; 1898, Arthur B. Brown, Edward H. Davenport, Edward B. Brown; 1899, Arthur B. Brown, Edward B. Brown, Edward H. Davenport; 1900, Edward B. Brown, Edward H. Davenport, Charles S. Tarbell; 1901, Edward B. Brown, Edward H. Davenport, Charles C. Brown.

Town Clerks—Robert Moulton, 1731; John Sherman, 1732-61; Joseph Blodgett, 1761-2; Timothy Danielson, 1763-75; James Bridgham, 1775-6; Aaron Mighill, 1777-8; Joseph Moffat, 1779-84; Aaron Morgan, 1784-97; Stephen Pynchon, 1797-1823; William W. Thompson, 1823-6; Ebenezer Knight, 1826-9; John B. Cooley, 1829-31; Francis B. Stebbins, 1831; Abner Brown, 1832; Francis B. Stebbins, 1833; Ebenezer Knight, 1834-9; Asa Lincoln, 1839; Fitz Henry Warren, 1840; John W. Bliss, 1841; Asa Lincoln, 1842; Otis Lane, 1843-5; Henry F. Brown, 1845-8; Philip G. Hubbard, 1849; John Newton, 1850; Henry F. Brown, 1851; Charles Le Baron, 1852; George Bacon, 1853-6; James B. Brown, 1857; Calvin B. Brown, 1858-60; Henry F. Brown, 1861-2; George Bacon, 1863-4; Henry F. Brown, 1865-91; George M. Hitchcock, 1892-6; Oscar F. Brown, 1897.

The town officers of Brimfield for 1901 are as follows: Town clerk and treasurer, Oscar F. Brown; selectmen, overseers of the poor and board of health, Edward B. Brown, Edward H. Davenport, Charles C. Brown; auditors, George F. Kibbe, Miner H. Corbin; collector, Charles S. Tarbell; assessors, Sanford Booth, Charles C. Brown, Gilbert L. Brown; constables, George W. Sherman, George E. Hitchcock, Orrin Hicks, William C. Davenport; superintendent of streets, Edward H. Davenport; cemetery committee, George M. Hitchcock, Edward W. Potter, Emory Livermore; school committee, James Read Brown, Dr. Robert V. Sawin, Clarence B. Brown; superintendent of schools, James A. MacDougall of Monson; trustees of public library, Thomas J. Morgan, Charles C. Brown, Issac W. Allen, Rebecca M. Lincoln, M. Lizzie Noyes, M. Anna Tarbell (librarian).

Representatives[1]—Robert Moulton, 1731; John Sherman, 1740; Thomas Mighill, 1746; Thomas Stebbins, 1747-51; John Sherman, 1753-4; Daniel Burt, 1760-65; Timothy Danielson, 1767-72; James Bridgham, 1773; Daniel Burt, 1781; Dr. Joseph Moffat, 1782; Aaron Mighill, 1783; Nehemiah May, 1784; Joseph Browning, 1786-93; David Morgan, 1794; Joseph Browning, 1795-6; Joseph Hoar, 1797; Abner Morgan, 1798-1801;

[1]Town representatives subsequent to 1812 will be found in the county civil lists.

Clark Brown, 1802-3; Stephen Pynchon, 1805-7; William Eaton, 1808; Stephen Pynchon, 1809-12; James Blodgett, 1809; Philemon Warren, 1810-12 (town entitled to two representatives from 1809 to 1812).

While the settlers of Brimfield experienced not a little trouble from Indians, and built two block houses in different portions of the settlement as places of refuge in case of need, it is a pleasure to record that there was no occasion for their use, the town being spared the scenes of butchery and conflagration to which many of the early Massachusetts settlements were subjected. The town, however, furnished a generous proportion of its citizens for service in the various Indian wars preceding the revolution. There is no occasion to doubt that these men served faithfully, although the records are lamentably meager. Their names, however, have been preserved, and the following list, which is doubtless reasonably complete and correct, includes the names of the Brimfield men rendering service in the companies and at the times designated:

Expedition Against the French and Indians, 1747—Ensign James Mirick, Sergeant Ichabod Bliss, Corporal Medad Hitchcock, Sentinel Daniel Graves; Samuel Kilborn, Nathaniel Clark, Mark Ferry, Humphrey Gardner, Charles Hoar, Daniel Morgan, Henry Burt, John Nelson, E. Moreton, Joseph Bullings, Nathaniel Munger.

French and Indian War, 1755: Captain Daniel Burt's company—Lieutenant Samuel Chandler, Ensign Trustrum Davis; Sergeants Jonathan Brown, John Harkness, and William Janes; Clerk Daniel Loomis, Drummer Ebenezer Arms, Corporals John Hallowell, Joshua Russell, John Mighill, and Jabez Keep; Sentinels Ephraim White, Ebenezer Bishop, Joseph Moffatt, Jr., Nathaniel Collins, and John Bishop; John Thompson, Asa Merritt, Samuel Livermore, William Gordon, Joseph Davis, Elijah Mighill, Gideon Dimock, Benjamin Webber, Joshua Garey, Ichabod Meecham, Francis Baxter, Thomas Walton, Simeon Burke, Perez Marsh, Jr., Dennis Wedge, John Burt, Nathaniel Mighill, Robert Dunkly, Jr., James Turner, Daniel Moffatt, John Brightwell, Thomas Blodgett, Edward Roatch, Jehiel Morgan, Ebenezer Scott, Jr., Deliverance Carpenter, William Dadee.

Captain Ebenezer Moulton's company—Lieutenant Gideon Mirrick, Ensign David Wallis, Clerk Humphrey Crane, Sergeants Hugh Tackles, Joseph Belknap, and Joseph Munger; Corporals Joshua Burgess, Phineas Mirrick, Phineas Durkee, and Aaron Graves; Drummer Richard Gordon; Samuel McClellan, John Cross, John Danielson, Jr., Abner Blodgett, Robert McMaster, Benjamin Stebbins, David Lumbard, Thomas Riddle, Stephen Clark, John Chedle, Ebenezer Frost, Asa Belknap, William Gardner, Nehemiah Needham, Samuel Bullen, John Hiel, John Lamberton, Thomas Anders, Jonathan Lumbard, Timothy Walker, Reuben Morgan, Jonathan Kilbourn, Josiah Converse, Jr., Joseph Moulton, William Belknap, James Runnels, Isaac Aplin, Timothy Farrell, David Brittian, Jonathan King, William Fleming, Samuel Frost, Timothy Collins, Adonijah Russell, Abijah Healey, Henry Webber, Samuel Dearing, William Garey, Henry Lyon, Jonathan Frost, Ebenezer Cooley.

Crown Point Expedition, 1756: Captain Trustram Davis' company—Clerk John Mighill, Sergeant Israel Walker, Corporal Ephraim White, Drummer Joseph Foot; Elijah Mighill, John Post, Samuel Allen, Josiah Smith, Reuben Townsley, Samuel Lee, David Allen, Joseph Moulton, John Davis, Joseph Needham, Jacob Webber, Asa Belknap, Andrew Walton, Isaac Wallis, Jotham King, William Garle, Samuel Smith, Edward Cobb.

During the same year five Brimfield men were pressed into the service: Simeon Hubbard, Samuel Lee, Samuel Bates, John Burt, and Edward Cobb.

Expedition Against Canada, 1758: Captain Daniel Burt's company—Sergeants Aaron Merrick, Phineas Durkee; Corporal Josiah Holbrook; Drummers Isaac Mund, Jasper Needham; Israel Walker, Benjamin Blodgett, Timothy Walker, Jonathan Moulton, Isaac Bliss, John Morgan, Joseph Thompson, John Rosebrook, Richard Bishup, Samuel Webber, Samuel Mighill, John Thompson, Reuben Lilley, Asa Belknap, Israel Janes, Peter Fuller, Asa Holbrook, Thomas Hobart, Reuben Hoar, Aquila Moffatt, Paul Hitchcock, Jotham King, Benjamin Nelson, William Garey, Nathaniel Mighill, Reuben Townsley, Phineas Graves, Simeon Keene, Ebenezer Stebbins, Elnathan Munger,

John Shaw, John Harris, Peter Groves, Smith Ainsworth, Isaac Scott, Daniel Sherman, Beriah Sherman, Joseph Morgan, Jacob Ainsworth, Matthias Hartman, William Nelson, Benjamin Carpenter, Benjamin Webber.

Captain Trustram Davis' company, 1760—Lieutenants Jonathan Morgan and Joseph Thompson, Ensign Daniel Knowlton, Sergeants Samuel Mighill and Gideon Dimick, Corporals Peter Fuller, John Anderson and William Bishop, Sentinels Reuben Lilley, George Larkins and Jehiel Morgan, Drummer Samuel Blodgett; Asa Belknap, Ariel Mighill, John Robinson, Samuel Frizzell, Joseph Hitchcock, Daniel Haines, Adonijah Cooley, Joseph Davis, George Peagray, John Hinds, Aaron Mighill, Joseph Crawfoot, Reuben Townsley, Benjamin Nelson, Caleb Loomis, Edward Cobb, Thomas Anderson, John Willis, John Davis, Jonathan Babcock, Benajah Rice, Jonathan Norris, John Harris, Jonathan Torrey, David Torrey, Leonard Hoar, Alexander Jennings, Nathaniel Cooley, Trustram Davis, Jr., Lemuel Hind.

It is noteworthy, in connection with the last named company, that one of its members, Reuben Townsley, was taken captive by the Indians, and was subjected to their favorite ordeal of running the gauntlet. Despite this trying reception, he became a favorite with his captors, was adopted into the tribe, and lived with the red men for ten years. He then returned to Brimfield, but finding civilized life distasteful, went back to the forest where he passed the rest of his days.

In the discussions and active measures which preceded the actual outbreak of the revolution, the people of Brimfield took an earnest part. At the town meeting in 1768 it was voted to send Timothy Danielson as a delegate from Brimfield to the convention to be held at Boston on the 22d of September of that year to consider the relations between the colony and the English government. In 1773 strong resolutions denouncing certain objectionable acts of Parliament were adopted, and in 1774 the voters of the town unanimously adopted the covenant pledging them to abstain from the use of any goods imported from Great Britain and to sunder all commercial relations with those who

continued to sell goods so imported. This covenant was signed by 190 freeholders of the town, and as there was no dissenting vote recorded, it is probable that this number included practically all of the men of the town. During the same year money was raised for the purchase of powder and lead, and measures were taken for the organization of two militia companies, who were to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's notice to the defense of the province. The organizations were designated as the East and West companies, and the following officers were appointed on the 7th of October: East company—Captain James Sherman, First Lieutenant Jonathan Charles, Second Lieutenant Phineas Sherman, Ensign Daniel Burt. West company—Captain Samuel Nichols, First Lieutenant Jonathan Brown, Second Lieutenant Nathan Hoar, Ensign Abner Stebbins. In January, 1775, it was voted that a company of fifty minute men be raised and equipped at the expense of the town, and Joseph Thompson was chosen as their captain. He remained in the service until the close of the war, attaining the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

With the opening of the war the demands upon the people of the town became heavy, and so continued to the close of the struggle. Not only were soldiers furnished in liberal number to maintain the continental army, but the tax upon the people who remained at home, to supply the necessities of the troops, to pay for their service, and to meet other requirements, was enough to appall the bravest. Yet there was no faltering or demur. Whatever was required was voted with unanimity, and the most serious burdens were assumed unflinchingly. The list of those who served in the patriot army, so far as preserved, is given below; but it is believed that in all the town sent fully 200 of her sons into the service—a most heroic number considering the population at the time. Where these men served, the battles in which they were engaged, the marches and the hardships which they endured, are not recorded; but it is of record that at the close of the war the town bore a burden of £1,768 8*s*. as its share of the arrears of pay due the faithful troops who had won the independence of the colonies.

So far as preserved, the names of Brimfield's soldiers in the war of the revolution were:

Brigadier-General Timothy Danielson, Colonel Jonathan Thompson, Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Thompson, Majors Nathaniel Dickinson and Abner Morgan, Captains Thomas T. Burt, Joseph Browning, John Carpenter, Joseph Hoar and James Sherman, Lieutenants Jonathan Brown, Reuben Lilly, Aaron Mighill and Phineas Sherman, Ensign Nathaniel Miller; John Atchinson, Henry Abbott, Zebediah Abbott, Nathan Ames, Peter Alexander, Samuel Andrew, James Burnett, Joseph Baker, Sherebiah Ballard, John Bartlett, George Bement, Jesse Bement, George Blanchard, James Blashfield, John Blashfield, Ozem Blashfield, William Blashfield, Henry Bliss, John Bloss, Blodgett Bliss, Edward Bond, Ephraim Bond, Luke Bond, Samuel Bond, Daniel Belknap, Thomas Bliss, Admatha Blodgett, Jonas Blodgett, Benjamin Blodgett, Ephraim Blodgett, Rufus Blodgett, Hooper Bishop, Solomon Bishop, Abner Bishop, Jonathan Bridgham, Silas Brooks, Bartholomew Brown, Jonathan Brown, John Bryant, Noadiah Burr, Abel Burt, Stoddard Cady, Abial Carpenter, John Carpenter, William Carpenter, Timothy Corliss, Lemuel Chapman, Aaron Charles, Jonathan Charles, Nathaniel Charles, Nehemiah Charles, Solomon Charles, John Charles, Nathaniel Chickering, Benoni Clark, Peter Clark, Lewis Collins, Nathaniel Collins, Stephen Collins, Thaddeus Collins, Azariah Cooley, John Collis, Altamont Danielson, Calvin Danielson, Daniel Danielson, John Danielson, Lothario Danielson, Luther Danielson, Samuel Davis, William Davis, Isaac Draper, Samuel Draper, Joseph Dunham, Hananiah Ellingwood, Rufus Fairbanks, Ebenezer Fairbanks, Elijah Fay, Levi Fay, Judah Ferry, Jonathan Fisk, Luther Fuller, Jesse Graves, John Gardner, John Harris, Danial Haynes, Jonas Haynes, Samuel Haynes, Josiah Hill, Aaron Hitchcock, Abijah Hitchcock, Abner Hitchcock, Eldad Hitchcock, Eli Hitchcock, Elijah Hitchcock, Ezra Hitchcock, Jacob Hitchcock, Joseph Hitchcock, Levi Hitchcock, Luther Hitchcock, Medad Hitchcock, Winchester Hitchcock, Leonard Hoar, John B. Hubbard, Jonathan Hubbard, Henry Hooker, Jeremiah Howard, David Janes, Elijah Janes, Eliphalet Janes,

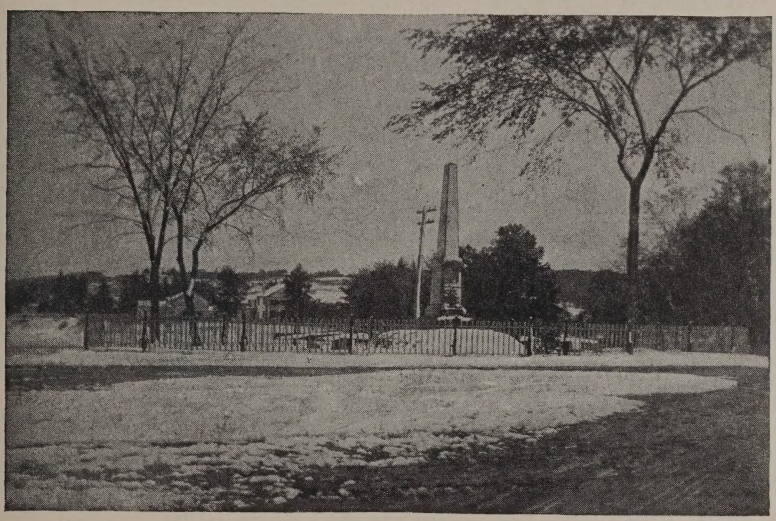
Isaac Janes, Israel Janes, Jonathan Janes, Peleg Cheney Janes, Solomon Janes, Thomas Janes, William Janes, Asaph Lane, Samuel Lewis, Benjamin Lilly, Joseph Lilly, Reuben Lilly, Samuel Lilly, Daniel Livermore, Absalom Lumbard, Aaron Lumbard, David Lumbard, Jeremiah Lumbard, Stephen Lumbard, Thomas Lumbard, Nathaniel Mighill, Oliver Mason, Ezra May, Thomas McClure, Abner Mighill, Nathaniel Miller, Amos Miller, Daniel Moffatt, Jacob Moffatt, Joel Moffatt, Judah Moffatt, Lewis Moffatt, William Moffatt, Aaron Morgan, Benjamin Morgan, David Morgan, Enoch Morgan, Jacob Morgan, Jonathan Morgan, Joseph Morgan, Pelatiah Morgan, William Morgan, Benjamin Nelson, Samuel Nelson, John Newell, Asher Nichols, John Nichols, Zadok Nichols, Jesse Parker, Lemuel Parker, Eli Powers, Joseph Russell, Simon Rogers, Sylvanus Sanderson, George Shaw, Samuel Shaw, Benjamin Sherman, Beriah Sherman, Bezaleel Sherman, James Sherman, John Sherman, Joseph Sherman, Lemuel Sherman, Noah Sherman, Samuel Sherman, Thomas Sherman, George Shumway, Elijah Smith, John Smith, Daniel Stearns, Abner Stebbins, David Stebbins, John Stebbins, Jotham Stebbins, Judah Stebbins, Levi Stebbins, Thomas Stone, Abner Sabin, Alpheus Thompson, Asa Thompson, Amherst Thompson, James Thompson, Jonathan Thompson, John Thompson, Samuel Thompson, Solomon Thompson, Stephen Thompson, Adam Townsley, Daniel Townsley, Gad Townsley, Jacob Townsley, Reuben Townsley, Benjamin Trask, Noah Trask, William Trask, Joseph Tucker, Christopher Ward, Comfort Ward, Ebenezer Ward, Elijah Ward, Bradley Webber, Gershom Whitney, Joshua Witham, Calvin Worthington.

In the Shays rebellion of 1786-7 the town stood in support of the government, and its two militia companies were twice ordered to Springfield—on September 25, 1786, remaining six days, and on January 17, 1787, remaining on duty for twenty-four days. A special company was also enlisted, and served from February 7 to March 12, 1787.

The people of Brimfield, as was the case generally throughout New England, were not in sympathy with the war of 1812, and did not fail to express their dissent in town meetings and

otherwise. Nevertheless, sturdy sons of the town followed the flag of their country, though the details of their service, as in other cases, are known only in vague tradition. The towns of Monson, Brimfield and South Brimfield united in raising a company for this war, under command of Captain Isaac Fuller of Monson, of which Brimfield furnished:

Lieutenant Abner Brown, Sergeant-Major Daniel Frost, Sergeants Julius Ward and Erastus Lumbard, Corporal Zadoc Nichols; Saunders Allen, Lemuel Allen, Shubael Butterworth,



Soldiers' Monument

William Blodgett, Martin Durkee, Chester Ellinwood, Oliver Felton, Timothy Gardner, Jonathan Haynes, Eaton Hitchcock, John Dunbar, Edward Lewis, John G. Moore, Joshua Nichols, Daniel S. Nichols, Lewis Robinson, Timothy Snyder, Martin Smith, Abial Stebbins, Erastus Stebbins, Calvin Burnett, Loring Collins, Aaron English, George Harvey.

In the war of the rebellion, from 1861 to 1865, the people of the town manifested for the preservation of the nation a heroism as lofty and self-sacrificing as that displayed in the long struggle for independence and a republican government. Under the

various calls for soldiers during that war, the town furnished 138 men, being an excess of five over the quota required. The larger portion of these men served with the 27th, 34th and 46th Massachusetts regiments, though many other organizations within the state, and some from other states, bore the names of Brimfield men upon their rolls. There was raised and expended for military purposes during the war, by the town, over $15,000, besides $5,853 for state aid to soldiers' families, which was afterward repaid by the state. Over $1,800 was also raised by the women of Brimfield for the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, to aid in the work of these noble organizations in behalf of sick, wounded, and needy soldiers in the field and in hospitals. The town was one of the first in the state to erect a soldiers' monument, an appropriation of $1,250 for the purpose being made March 12, 1866, and the monument being dedicated July 4 following. With other appropriate inscription, it bears the names of 18 soldiers from the town who died in the service.

It is thus shown that whenever a resort to arms has been necessary, the men of Brimfield have been ready to meet the fullest requirements of patriotic citizenship, whether by the giving of their substance, the manful bearing of privation and hardship, or even the supreme measure of life sacrifice, in behalf of American ideas and institutions; and this while they have been eminently a peaceful, almost pastoral, people, devoted to the culture of their fertile acres, and to those amenities which give to life its sweetest and most charming aspect.

The settlement of Brimfield was decided upon on account of the fertility of the soil and the inviting nature of its lands for farming purposes. Naturally, agriculture has always remained the principal pursuit of its inhabitants. The township as settled was divided into farms of moderate proportions, and comparatively little change has been made during the subsequent experiences of the inhabitants. Within the town limits there are nearly 200 farms, with an average valuation of some $3,000. This distribution of the town property indicates, a thrifty, prosperous community, on the one hand without concentration of great wealth in a few hands, and on the other being spared the

blight of widespread poverty. A community of people with homes is the ideal of American life, and that has ever been the condition of Brimfield's inhabitants.

The manufacturing interests have never been extensive, though a considerable variety of industries have first and last been established. In the early days, potash, saltpeter and tar were produced to some extent, and later some pottery was made from clay obtained at Sherman's pond. Brick making has continued to the present time, as have saw mills and grist mills. Wool dressing, tailoring, and the manufacture of woolen hats

The Brimfield Windmill

were followed prior to the modern practice of consolidating such industries in large establishments. Some cotton and woolen manufacturing was carried on during the first half of the last century, and the plant was afterward used for the manufacture of shoemaking tools and machinery. The tanning of leather was carried on until the destruction of the plant about 1850, and the manufacture of boots and shoes was at one time of some importance. It is said that Brimfield sent the first ready-made boots to some of the Connecticut markets, and to other southern points, but the industry never attained to large proportions.

Various other branches of business have been entered from time to time, and have proved more or less valuable factors in the town's development; but none have come to compare in importance with the permanent and profitable labors of the husbandman.

The matter of education received attention early in the history of the town, it being voted December 28, 1731, that the town have a school. The territory was divided into three districts in 1736, but only a single teacher was employed, dividing the time between the three sections. The boundaries of the districts were established in December, 1742, and at the same time a tax of £80 was voted to pay for labor and materials for the building of school-houses. In 1753 it was voted to have schools kept in seven places, and thirteen years later the number of districts was increased to ten. A year previous a grammar school had been voted; but the compensation of the teachers cannot have been very liberal, as the annual appropriation for 1755 was only £30, of which about one-ninth was to go to the teacher of the grammar school, the remainder to be equally divided between the seven districts. The examination of teachers and care of the schools was in the hands of the minister until 1819, when a committee of ten—one for each district—was appointed for his assistance. In 1843 the plan of a general committee of three to have oversight of all schools in the town was adopted, but it was not until 1859 that school reports were printed. The district system was abolished by the state in 1870, and the present plan of graded schools took the place of the old method.

The Hitchcock Free Academy was established in 1855, through the liberality of Mr. Samuel A. Hitchcock, and for almost half a century has held an honorable place among the educational institutions of the county and state. Mr. Hitchcock was a public-spirited citizen of the best type, and bestowed his means, while still living and able to direct the beneficence, for the permanent good of his native town. His total contributions amounted to $75,000, and these have been supplemented to some extent by outside subscriptions, although substantially the school stands as the monument, of most noble type, of its namesake and

founder. The incorporation was effected April 26, 1855, as "The Trustees of the Brimfield Free Grammar School." In June of the following year the name was changed to the Hitchcock Free Grammar school, in March, 1871, to the Hitchcock Free High school, and June 10, 1897, to Hitchcock Free academy.

The school buildings are pleasantly located on a commodious lot in the center of the village, and are equipped with modern scientific apparatus and a carefully selected library. The institution is primarily designed for the free accommodation and

Hitchcock Free High School

benefit of Brimfield residents, but applicants from other towns are received on favorable terms to the capacity of the school, and so widespread is its reputation that there is never a lack of pupils. English and classical courses of study are provided, the latter covering four years, and being designed to qualify students for admission to the best American colleges.

The principals of the school, from the time of its opening until the present have been: Henry A. Littel, Joseph G. Scott, Edwin D. Dewey, Charles E. Sumner, Nathan Thompson, Charles M. Palmer, Henry Marden, W. S. Knowlton, Elias

Brookings, William W. McClench, E. W. Norwood, Charles H. Cooper, Francis E. Burnett, R. B. Clarke, Arthur A. Upham, Henry S. Pratt, J. M. Russell, George W. Earle, Fred A. Luce and Wellington Hodgkins.

It may almost be said that Brimfield has had but a single church during its history. One of the requirements embodied in the commission of the first prudential committee was that they should settle an able Orthodox minister as soon as might be, and

The Town, from the fields

early in the history of settlement this requirement was carried out. The first meeting-house was erected in 1722 on the site of the present village church. It was a plain frame structure, without tower or steeple, and in accordance with the custom of that time it was built without chimneys or any provision for artificial warmth. Still it served its purpose until 1804, when a new building was erected on the site, at a cost of $6,000, the "raising" of the frame being made a day of general jubilation through the town. This building was remodeled in 1838, and was destroyed

by fire in 1847. As soon as practicable it was replaced by the present structure, which was dedicated in January, 1848, and with some improvements has served the people for more than half a century. The Sunday school was established in 1819.

Rev. Richard Treat, the first minister, was ordained November 18, 1724, being granted 120 acres with "after rights," and paid a salary of £85, afterward increased to £105—a liberal allowance for the time and in the condition of the settlement. He resigned the pastorate in 1734, and his successor, Rev. James Bridgham, was called in 1736, serving for forty years, until his death in 1776. The subsequent pastors have been: Rev. Nehemiah Williams, 1775-96; Rev. Clark Brown, 1798-1803; Rev. Warren Fay, 1808-11; Rev. Joseph Vaill, Jr., 1814-34, 1837-41; Rev. Joseph Fuller, 1835-7; Rev. George C. Partridge, 1842-6; Rev. B. E. Hale, 1847-9; Rev. Jason Moore, 1849-61; Rev. Charles M. Hyde, 1862-70; Rev. Moses B. Boardman, 1870-73; Rev. Webster K. Pierce, 1874-8; Rev. Doane R. Atkins, 1879-81; Rev. Samuel V. McDuffee, 1882-4; Rev. Joseph Kyte, 1884-8; Rev. M. L. Richardson, 1889-91; Rev. Wilbur Rand, 1891-3; Rev. Robert J. Kyle, 1893-1900; Rev. William P. Clancy, 1900.

A few minor societies have for short periods held meetings in the town, but none have long continued, and the record of the community has been one of remarkable religious unity.

In area the present town of Brimfield covers 35.2 square miles. In population it had in 1840 attained 1410, by the United State census, and in 1850 reached its highest figure—1420. Since that time the falling off has been continual, the census figures showing, in 1860, 1361; 1870, 1288; 1880, 1203; 1890, 1096; 1900, 941.

CHAPTER X

THE TOWN OF BLANDFORD

BY A. M. COPELAND

Blandford is located south of Chester, and is bounded north by Chester and Huntington, east by Russell, south by Tolland and Granville, and west by Otis and Becket. For the most part the town is on a plateau of an average altitude of about 1,300 feet above the sea. The highest land is Walnut Hill in the western part of the town, the summit of which is 1,760 feet above the sea. There are four natural ponds: North Meadow pond, Long pond, Blair pond and Cochran pond. A branch of Westfield river known as Little river flows from North Meadow pond in a southeasterly direction through the central part of the town and the south part of Russell, and enters the Westfield river just below Westfield village.

The views from Blandford are extensive, the city of Springfield being easily seen through a strong glass, and in the evening the illumination from the electric lights is visible from the vicinity of the meeting-house. The view to the north across the Westfield river ravine and over the highlands of Montgomery and Huntington and Chester and beyond, is grand, and so to the west and south and east it is extensive and almost equally grand.

There are two villages in the town, Blandford and North Blandford. Highways lead from these to Russell and to Westfield, to Chester and Huntington, to Otis and to Becket, to Tolland and to Granville. There are numerous brooks flowing in every direction, some flowing toward and into Westfield river, and some flowing toward and mingling their waters with the

Farmington river. These streams afford many water privileges for saw-mills, and at North Blandford for other manufacturing.

The geological formation is metamorphic to a high degree. While there is found here and there a fair degree of fertility of soil, for the most part the soil of this town is not so favorable for agriculture as in some of the adjoining towns. Mr. Gibbs in his address upon the history of Blandford says that "For many years after the settlement of the town, our most wealthy farmers cut only sufficient hay to winter a cow and a few sheep. Those who kept horses were obliged to have them wintered in Westfield."

In the northwesterly part of the town is a soap stone ledge; near this place is a hummock of serpentine rock, and it is marked on some maps, very erroneously, as an extinct volcanic crater. There are other outcropings of soapstone. In the east part of the town is a bed of kaolin which is utilized in connection with the manufacture of brick at Russell.

Prior to 1713 some of the northern tier of towns in the state of Connecticut were supposed to be within the limits of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, and the government of Massachusetts exercised jurisdiction over them. Woodstock, Enfield and Suffield were for many years treated as Massachusetts towns. Deeds of land in Suffield were recorded in the Old Hampshire county records. But the boundary line between the colony of Connecticut and the Province of Massachusetts Bay was for many years a matter of controversy between the Province and the Colony. In 1713 a commission was agreed upon to survey and establish the line. The line as established by the commission threw into the Colony of Connecticut the towns of Woodstock, Suffield, the southern extremity of the old town of Springfield both east and west of the Connecticut river, and the southern part of the town of Westfield. By the terms of the agreement, Massachusetts was, as before, to have jurisdiction over the old border towns, though they fell south of the new line. For this privilege of jurisdiction Massachusetts agreed to compensate Connecticut. For as much territory as Massachusetts governed south of the true line, she agreed to give the same amount of

territory to Connecticut in unimproved lands in western Massachusetts and in New Hampshire, and a further allowance was made by a promise to sell the more distant lands at a cheaper rate. These unimproved lands were called equivalent lands. The small disputed tract at Windsor fell to Connecticut. The lands in Connecticut that Massachusetts governed by the above agreement were:

In Woodstock	30,419 acres
In Enfield	36,180 acres
In Suffield	22,172 acres
Part of Springfield, east of Connecticut river	640 acres
Part of Springfield, west of Connecticut river	287 acres
In Westfield	5,549 acres

Besides there were some lands in grants to private individuals.

It was customary for individuals to own large tracts of land in common, principally for pasturage, and they were called the proprietors of common and undivided lands. The laws of the Province of Massachusetts Bay recognized this kind of proprietorship of lands, and laws were passed touching the organization of such proprietors for the purpose of regulating the use and enjoyment of such common and undivided lands. In the town of Suffield were a large number of owners of common and undivided lands. It appears that some of the lands so held in Suffield were set to Windsor and some to Simsbury by the readjustment of town lines incident to this settlement of the line between Massachusetts and Connecticut, and so were brought within the jurisdiction of Connecticut; and thus the proprietors were deprived of their former rights as tenants in common. To compensate these proprietors for their loss, the general court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay gave to these Suffield proprietors of common lands so set to the towns of Windsor and Simsbury, a tract of land just west of Westfield to be of the contents of six miles square, as an equivalent for these common lands of which they had been so deprived. This grant was made in 1732, and the land so granted was called New Glasgow, or often simply Glasgow. There were somewhat more than one hundred

of these proprietors. Their rights were held common and undivided, but in unequal shares, each individual share consisting of a definite number of acres.

About 1734, Christopher Jacob Lawton, a lawyer, of Suffield, began to buy of each proprietor his share in the New Glasgow lands, each one giving Lawton, for a named consideration, a deed of his right, naming the number of acres, without giving any other description except naming the township, designating it as the equivalent land granted by the general court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay to the proprietors of common lands in Suffield that were set off to Windsor and Simsbury in establishing the line between Massachusetts and Connecticut in 1713. A copy of one of the deeds will give a good idea of the transaction, besides giving valuable historic facts. The following is a substantial copy of a deed to Lawton from Joseph King of Suffield. Omitting the formal preliminary statements, the deed runs thus: "For divers good causes and considerations me hereunto moving, but especially for those hereafter mentioned, viz.: for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and seventy-five pounds, to me in hand paid or secured by Christopher Jacob Lawton of Suffield, aforesaid, and for the great expense the said Lawton has been at to obtain a grant of the general assembly of the Province aforesaid (Mass. Bay) of the contents of six miles square of land for an equivalent to the proprietors of the common and undivided lands in said Suffield for land taken away from the proprietors of the township of Suffield, aforesaid, and laid to the towns of Windsor and Simsbury by the late establishment of the line between the Province aforesaid and the Colony of Connecticut, and for the further expense in viewing and surveying a tract of land whereon to lay said equivalent, and getting a confirmation of the same by the general assembly aforesaid, do remise, release, and forever quitclaim, and by these presents do, for myself and my heirs remise, release and forever quitclaim unto him, the said Christopher Jacob Lawton, and to his heirs and assigns forever, all the right, estate, interest, claim and demand whatsoever which I, the said Joseph King, had or ought to have of, in, and unto the

aforesaid grant of six miles square of land (as it is confirmed by the general court of the Province aforesaid, reference being had to the province records may appear), by any deed or deeds heretofore made to me, the said Joseph King, viz.: By deed made me by Jared Huxley and William Huxley of a forty-acre right on the right of their father, Thomas Huxley, one of the original proprietors of said Suffield, deceased; and by a deed made to me by Luke Hitchcock, Esq., of a fifty-acre right; and by a deed made to me of a fifty-acre right by Joseph Leonard; and by a deed made to me by my brother, James King, of a fifty-acre right on the right of John Huggins, deceased; and by a deed made to me by Ebenezer Scott of the six-acre right of his father, John Scott; and by a deed of a twelve-acre right made to me by my honored father and mother, James King and Eliza King, his wife; and a ten-acre right on the right of Benjamin Cooley, deceased, by deed made me by his son, Benjamin Cooley; and by deed made to me of the fifty-acre right of Obediah Miller, deceased, by his heirs, viz.: Obediah Miller, John Barker, Timothy Hale and Hannah, his wife, Nathan Miller, John Miller, Thomas Terry and Martha, his wife, Benjamin Wright and Mary, his wife, and from John Stephensen, Jonathan Stephenson, and Benajah Stephenson, Ebenezer Leonard and Joannah, his wife; and on the fifty-acre right of George Colton, by deed made to me by Capt. Thomas Colton, John Colton, Nathaniel Bliss and Deobora, his wife, Capt. George Colton, Ephraim Colton, Samuel Colton, Josiah Colton, Ebenezer Bliss and Sarah, his wife, Margaret Colton, Samuel Bernard, Jonathan Wells, Ebenezer Graves, Capt. John Mirick and his wife, Benjamin Chapin and his wife; and on the fifty-acre right Rowland Thomas, deceased, by deed from his heirs that are hereafter named, viz.: Ebenezer Thomas, Samuel Thomas, Josiah Thomas, Benjamin Thomas, James Warriner and Sarah, his wife, John Bagg and Mary, his wife. All the aforementioned rights were original rights in the township of Suffield, and I, the said Joseph King, am a commoner thereon so far as these deeds mentioned make me so or by any other way or means howsoever.

To have and to hold all my right in or title unto the aforesaid grant of six miles square as an equivalent as aforesaid, unto

him the said Christopher Jacob Lawton, his heirs and assigns forever (yet nevertheless it is to be understood that the said Christopher Jacob Lawton, his heirs and assigns, is to be at all further changes in fulfilling the conditions enjoyned by the general assembly, aforesaid, in respect to building and settling said equivalent to bring forward a town there so far as I, myself, ought to have done), to their only proper use and behoof of him, said Christopher Jacob Lawton, his heirs and assigns forever. So that neither I, the said Joseph King, nor my heirs, executors or administrators, or any other person or persons by, from, or under me or them, or in the right or stead of any of them, shall or will, by any way or means, hereafter have claim, challenge, or demand any estate, right, title or interest in or to the premises, or any part or parcel thereof; and furthermore I, the said Joseph King, hereby covenant and engage for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators to and with the said Christopher Jacob Lawton, his heirs, executors and administrators, that he or they shall have the benefit of any one, so many or all my deeds so far as they respect said equivalent at his or their own proper cost and charges in the law to bring an action or actions on the said deeds or either of them, against any or every of the vendors in my name, or in the name of my heirs, executors or administrators, wherein any of said vendors or all have broken their covenants with me or my heirs, &c., on final judgment I covenant for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, that he, the said Lawton, his heirs, executors or administrators, shall and may have the benefit of any judgment or judgments of court it or them receive and discharge without being accountable to me, my heirs, executors or administrators so far as respects said equivalent, and I further covenant that I have the said deeds of the aforesaid premises on the public records, or shall have them.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty-fourth day of November, A. D. 1735.

JOSEPH KING—and seal."

There have been statements made in some of the historical sketches of Blandford that the conditions of settlement were im-

posed because the proprietors had caused the township to be surveyed seven instead of six miles square. The statements are credited to "tradition." But the conditions were the same as were imposed upon other townships that came by grant into the hands of private individuals as proprietors. The deed to Lawton from Joseph King and the following do not appear to justify the tradition.

"To all people to whom these presents shall come: Christopher Jacob Lawton of Suffield in the county of Hampshire and Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, Esq., sendeth greeting. Whereas, on the fourteenth day of December, A. D. 1732, upon the petition of Joseph Winchell and Joseph King to the great and general court then assembled at Boston in the county of Suffolk within the Province aforesaid, in behalf of themselves and the other commoners and proprietors of the common and undivided lands in the said town, setting forth that in running the line between the aforesaid province and the colony of Connecticut, A. D. 1713, there was taken from the aforesaid town of Suffield a very large quantity of land, and praying that they might be allowed an equivalent for the lands so taken away, a vote was passed in the Honorable House of Representatives, that the prayer of said petition should be so far granted as that the commoners and proprietors of the common and undivided lands in said town should be impowered by a surveyor and chainmen on oath to survey and lay out at their cost and charge the contents of six miles square of the unappropriated lands of the aforesaid province on the west side of Connecticut river, provided that within the term of seven years from the confirmation of said grant they should settle on the spot 60 families who should be obliged by the said grant to bring to clear and fit for improvement 3 acres, and 6 acres more well stocked with English grass, and also should each of them have a good convenient dwelling house on the said land of one story high and 18 feet square at the least, and to build within the said town a convenient house for the public worship of GOD, and settle a learned orthodox minister there, and that the said commoners and proprietors should return a plan of the said granted premises to the

general court within twelve months for confirmation of the same to the said commoners and proprietors, their heirs and assigns forever; which said vote was afterwards concurred in by the Honorable Council, and consented to by His Excellency, the Governor, and whereas, the aforesaid twelve months in and by the aforesaid proviso limited for the surveying and laying out of the aforesaid six miles square, and returning a plan thereof to the general court for the confirmation of the same to the said commoners and proprietors, their heirs and assigns, were by two subsequent orders of the general court prolonged to the space of two years from the time of the aforesaid grant; and the aforesaid term of 7 years in the aforesaid provision limited for settling the said 60 families in manner as aforesaid, on said tract of land, was also prolonged to the space of 8 years from the time of said grant; and whereas, pursuant to the aforesaid grant and orders of said general court a tract of land of the contents of six miles square of the unappropriated lands of the said province on the west side of Connecticut river was surveyed and laid out by a surveyor and chainman on oath for the aforesaid commoners and proprietors, who returned a plan thereof to the great and general court in December last, which was by said court accepted on the 4th day of the same month and recorded (as by the records of the said court reference being had thereto may appear) whereby the aforesaid tract of land which is butted and bounded as in the said plan returned to the general court is particularly mentioned and described, was confirmed to the said proprietors and commoners of the common and undivided lands of the said town of Suffield, their heirs and assigns forever.

And whereas the said Christopher Jacob Lawton hath since purchased of the aforesaid commoners and proprietors all their several respective rights of, in and to the aforesaid tract of land except the rights of Josiah Sheldon and the heirs of Joshua Leavitt, deceased, of said Suffield, and hath agreed with Robert Senot, James Freeland, John Osborne, Hugh Hambleton, Hugh Black, Comeinne Anderson, James Beard, Joseph Rice, Benjamin Woods, Samuel Karmer, James Montgomery, Armon Hambleton, Israel Gibbs, Robert Henry, Jonathan Boyce, James Wark, Rob-

ert Black, John Osborne, John Hambleton, Jeremiah Anderson, William Province, James MacCletick, Samuel Ferguson, James Freeland, Jr., John Houstin, Samuel Cook, Daniel Stone, Robert Houston, David Boyce, John Stuart, William Knox, Samuel Crooks, Samuel Tyger, William Anderson, William Barker, Samuel Wark, Alexander Osborn, Thomas Reed, Matthew Blair, Robert Cook, John Cockhoran, Robert Hambleton, Hugh Hambleton, Daniel Howe, Adam Knox, John Knox, Joseph Freeland, John Stuart, Robert Huston, Samuel Cook, William Dunaghoi, William Province, James Beard, John Cockran, Robert Hambleton, for the settlement of 60 families on said land in such manner and within such time as in the said proviso, in the aforementioned grant is contained and expressed, to whom the said Christopher Jacob Lawton hath covenanted to grant the several quantities hereafter mentioned, viz.: To fifty families 120 acres each, to two families 60 acres each, to five families 40 acres each, to one family 30 acres, rendering to him, his heirs and assigns six per cent current lawful money of New England yearly if demanded for each 120 acres of land and so proportionably, which said settlers have given bonds and covenants to John Foye and Francis Wells, both within the province aforesaid, merchants, and the said Christopher Jacob Lawton in penalty amounting in the whole to £22,500 lawful money of New England with conditions to accomplish their several settlements and pay their aforesaid bonds. *Now witnesseth* these presents, that the said Christopher Jacob Lawton for and in consideration of £3,000 in lawful public bills of credit to him in hand paid by Francis Brinley of Roxbury in the county of Suffold and province aforesaid, Esq., before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged,'' etc. Then follows, in usual form, a deed to said Brinley of one undivided fourth part of said township. This deed is dated July 8th, 1735. Lawton had already, by deed dated January 17th, 1735, conveyed to Francis Wells of Cambridge and to John Foye of Charlestown, one undivided fourth to each, of his interest in said township. And on March 30th, 1737, these several proprietors executed a deed of partition among themselves; so that from that date each

became the owner of certain lots located in different parts of the town containing 500 acres each.

The people named in the above cited deed from Lawton to Brinley, were, for the most part, those who came to Glasgow from Hopkinton, Mass. It came about in this way: A Congregational church was organized in Hopkinton Sept. 2d, 1724. "Seven of the original members of the church were Scotch Presbyterians, and five others soon after joined. As nothing was said at the outset about a form of church government, these men could conscientiously assent to the covenant and unite in Christian communion. April 9th, 1731, the church voted 'to comply with the Platform of Church Discipline agreed to by the Synod of Churches assembled at Cambridge, 1649, as the rule of their discipline, so far as they apprehended it to be agreeable to the Word of God.' This voting the church Congregational gave great offense to the Presbyterians. About ten families withdrew from the communion of the church. They were brought under discipline, and eventually several of them excommunicated. In 1734, they organized a Presbyterian church, built a small meeting-house about one and one-half miles west of the village, near what is known as the Ellery place. Subsequently, on the removal of many of these families to Blandford, this church organization was, by consent of Presbytery, transferred to that town, where it existed till 1800."

The list of membership of the First Congregational church in Hopkinton, contains the names of those who were excommunicated. Of them are the names of Robert Cook, William Dunaghoi, Robert Hambleton, Robert Huston, Hugh Black and his wife, William Henry, Matthew Blair, Sarah Montgomery, Robert Black, Jane Wark, Rebecca Wark, James Montgomery, John Hambleton, Adam Knox, Israel Gibbs, Mary Gibbs, Israel Walker, Mrs. Robert Sennet, Mrs. Robert Cook, Hugh Hambleton and wife, Walter Steward and wife, Mrs. J. S. Montgomery, Mary Hambleton, and these people went to Blandford, then called New Glasgow, and took their church with them. Tradition has it that they were promised a church bell from the city of Glasgow if they would call the town Glasgow, and continue that name.

Previous to the coming of these people (to quote from Wm. H. Gibbs' historical address in 1859) "they sent a number of bold and courageous young men to select the best route and erect habitations for their reception. These hardy adventurers reached the centre of this town in the latter part of April, 1735. On the day of their arrival, a severe snowstorm commenced and continued three days, leaving a body of snow on the ground to the depth of three or four feet. We can but faintly imagine their sufferings." Such shelter as they could find in the forest under the protecting boughs of pines and hemlocks they had. But the snow soon began to waste, and they were then able to clear away trees and to erect temporary cabins. "The first families arrived the following autumn, the residue the succeeding spring. Hugh Black was the first man who arrived with his family." . . . "The next individual who emigrated to this town with his family was James Baird." The locations selected by these settlers, as given by Mr. Gibbs, cannot at this late day be definitely given. We can only say that they were somewhere within the bounds of the township—probably within the limits of the tract laid out for the settlers—a tract about 2 miles wide by about 4 miles long. It included the whole of North street extending northerly nearly to what is known as "Beulah Land," on its westerly line, and southerly about to a soapstone quarry lying between "Fall road" and Little river; its easterly line extending from Tarrott's hill to near Chester line. It included the territory on which the village of Blandford is built, and it includes the road located easterly of, and little more than a mile from and parallel with North street. In this tract of land the lots for settlers were laid out. Mr. Gibbs says that, "The settlers selected their farm lots, and the names of several families who obtained farms on the west side of the town street, are left on record, viz.: Messrs. Black, Reed, McClinton, Taggart, Brown, Anderson, Hamilton, Wells, Blair, Stewart, Montgomery, Boise, Ferguson, Campbell, Wilson, Sennett, Young, Knox and Gibbs. The majority of the above-named persons became permanent residents upon the lots they drew." The northernmost lot drawn was in the vicinity, probably, of Dug hill and near where the highway to Huntington

turns off from North street. Mr. Gibbs suggests that the entire country from this spot to Canada was a trackless wilderness. The nearest settlement was Westfield, ten miles east. "The team which drew the first cart that entered the town was driven by Widow Moses Carr while the men were repairing the road. It is said that the team belonged to Israel Gibbs, who settled on the farm now (1850) occupied by John Gibbs; and his son Israel was the first male child born in this town."

"The number of families which emigrated with the second company, cannot be ascertained. Their progress in ascending the mountain through Russell (then part of Westfield), was laborious and disheartening. They commenced the ascent at 'Sackett's Tavern' (probably near the four-mile house), on the old Westfield road, a distance slightly exceeding seven miles to the centre of this town. The ascent of the mountain began on the margin of the river, and continued up a rocky ledge, which, from its rude and forbidding appearance, acquired the name of 'Devil's Stairs'. Such was the difficulty of forcing a passage up the hills and through the unsubdued forest, that the team was able to travel only two miles the first day. As night came on, they encamped in the forest. The second day they reached the top of 'Birch Hill,' and again encamped for the night in the midst of beasts of prey and venomous reptiles. On the third day, the wearied families arrived at their anticipated home, and seated in their log hut, participated in the bounties it afforded."

"Soon after a part of these families removed further north; in reaching their locality they had to pass through the 'Causway,' then a pathless hemlock swamp. This passage required a day of severe toil. James Baird, an athletic man belonging to the company, was so fatigued in accomplishing this task, that on leaving the swamp, he immediately threw himself upon the earth and quietly slumbered during the night beneath the branches of a large hemlock. His family, consisting of eight persons, is believed to have removed with him. In a similar manner other families urged their toilsome way to their respective places of residence. The trial and perplexities which they endured cannot be described! Probably there is not a parallel

in the history of the settlement of any town upon the mountains."

Patrick Boise, Esq., in an address upon the early history of Blandford, says: "In 1737 the proprietors became owners of their lands, severally by a deed of partition. By this they apportioned between themselves fifty-one lots of land. Messrs. Lawton, Brinley and Foye took thirteen lots aside from the two sixty-acre lots given to each of the first fifty settlers. A grant was made of a ten-acre lot in the center of the town, for public uses and as a general common. The other lands in the town were laid out in 500-acre lots. It is here worthy of remark that the exact figure of the town plot and the uniformity in the location and dimension of the lots of land, form a system of order and arrangement which is not to be found in any other town in the county—if in the State. It was a method well adapted to make certain the limits, preserve the boundaries, and secure the property of land-holders and purchasers. To this cause more than any other may be attributed that harmony which has so generally prevailed among the owners of land in this town. Few questions of disputed title have arisen to create disturbance and jealousy in the minds of the inhabitants."

In 1741 the general court of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, passed an act as follows: "Whereas, it hath been represented to this court, by the inhabitants of Suff[e]i[e]ld equivalent lands, commonly called Glasgow, in the county Hampshire, that they labor under great difficulties by reason of their not being incorporated into a township. Be it enacted by His Excellency the Governor, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same.

"Section 1. That the lands aforesaid be and hereby are erected into a separate and distinct township by the name of Blandford; the bounds whereof are as followeth, viz.: beginning at a black birch, marked, with stones about it, being the southeast corner, and is near a small brook that runs into Westfield River, and on the west side of a steep round mountain; from thence, running west, twenty degrees north, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five rods, to a maple tree, marked; thence north,

twenty degrees east, one thousand nine hundred and twenty rods, to a beech tree, marked, with stones about it; from thence, east, twenty degrees south, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five rods, to a yellow pine tree, marked, with stones about it; from thence, running south, twenty degrees west, one thousand nine hundred and twenty rods, to the bound first mentioned.

"Sec. 2. And the inhabitants on the land aforesaid be and are hereby vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities which the inhabitants of other towns are or ought to be vested with." Passed April 10, 1741.

The people of the town wished it called Glasgow, but Gov. Shirley, who had recently arrived in the good ship Blandford, insisted that this town should be called Blandford.

"These early inhabitants were so poor that they were compelled to solicit many favors from the proprietors of the town. They frequently petitioned the Colonial Legislature for grants of money and remission of taxes. This being a frontier settlement the court patiently listened to their prayers, and cheerfully imparted the solicited boon. At one time forty bushels of salt were given to the town to be distributed among the inhabitants.

In 1755 a special favor granted by the court to the town is noticed upon their records, and acknowledged in the following terms: "By virtue of a petition put into the Great and General Court of Boston by Rev. Mr. Morton in behalf of this town, the Honorable Court was pleased to grant us one *swivel* gun as an alarm gun, with one quarter barrel of powder and one bag of bullets for the same, and also one hundred flints for the use of the town, which we have received and paid charges on the same, from Boston to this town, which is two pounds and sixteen shillings old tenor, to Captain Houston."

"In 1758 (quoting further from Gibbs), owing to the embarrassing circumstances of the first settlers, the General Court discharged them from the obligation of furnishing their quota of men for the public service. In the spring of 1749, the Indians began to make encroachments upon the white settlers of the town, and all the families but four fled to the neighboring towns; some to Westfield, others to Windsor, Suffield, Simsbury, and Wethers-

field, Conn. A portion of them returned the following autumn, the remainder the next spring. At an early period three forts were erected; the first upon a lot now (1850) owned by Elijah Knox, another upon a lot now (1850) owned by Col. Justin Wilson, and the third upon the farm now (1850) owned by John Gibbs. At night all the families were collected into these forts. This state of things continued for the space of a year; and even long after that, on the least alarm, the inhabitants fled at dead of night from their own dwellings to seek refuge in these fortifications. How imminent and trying their situation! They seldom repaired to the field to their daily toil without taking fire-arms and placing a sentinel to keep guard while the others labored. Nor did they deem it safe to meet on the Sabbath for religious worship unarmed."

There was no grist-mill nearer than Westfield, which fact added to the hardship of the inhabitants.

"Many are the instances when they carried their grain and returned with their meal on foot, thus performing a journey with a load upon their back of more than twenty miles. Some families, considering the distance, fatigue, and time it required in going to and from mill, used to pound the corn in mortars."

"The inhabitants who first settled at the center of the town obtained most of their hay for many years from North Blandford, where we are informed were two beaver dams; one stood where the factory dam now (1850) stands, and the other near the sawmill of Mr. Orrin Sennett. These were demolished, and the grass sprang up and grew luxuriantly."

About twenty years after the settlement of the town a grist-mill was erected upon the stream and farm owned in 1850 by Levi Sizer, and it was known as "Bunnell's Mill." The next year after its construction, a salmon weighing 13 lbs. was taken in the pond. Salmon were known to ascend the river for many years later, and they gave name to Salmon falls in Russell. The most available source of information touching the early history of Blandford is Mr. Gibbs' historical address written in 1850, and it is used freely in this sketch of the town.

The civil affairs of the town advanced as fast as could be expected in a situation so secluded, and where the inhabitants

were devoted to agricultural pursuits. It appears from the records that the people were deeply interested in the political questions agitating the country at that early date. They participated in the general grievance that agitated the colony because of the arbitrary taxation imposed by Great Britain; and they were prompt in selecting delegates in 1775, to attend conventions at Concord, Watertown and Boston, hoping to obtain a redress of these grievances. The persons chosen as delegates were William Boies, William Carnahan and William Knox. When the national independence was declared, and the people took up arms against the mother country, some of the citizens of this town demurred and boldly avowed their loyalty to the king. And these loyalists were forbidden by the committee of safety to pass beyond the boundaries of their own farms. But these men occasioned the town little trouble.

The town met its proportion of the expenses of the war, and furnished its quota of soldiers. Though poor in purse, and at the same time taxed to the utmost of its ability to sustain the war, this town voluntarily selected a committee of enterprising men to collect money for those who would enlist as soldiers for the northern companies. In 1778 the town raised £106, and placed it in the hands of the selectmen, to furnish clothing for the soldiers. Committees of safety, inspection and correspondence were chosen, who were vigilant in watching the movements of the enemy, hoping to be ready for any emergency. In 1779 new troubles and difficulties arose because of the depreciation of the value of money used as a circulating medium. It was difficult to obtain credit, and dangerous to give it.

About this time Justus Ashmun was chosen delegate to attend a convention at Concord, to deliberate upon this subject, and to prevent, if possible, the further depreciation of the currency. The town assessed and raised £682 of the existing currency for military bounty, also to meet a demand brought against the town for blankets which were provided for the soldiers who were employed in the service upon the Hudson river. Most of the military stores used in the West during the Revolution were transported from Boston through this town. The roads were so

bad at that time that 20 yoke of oxen and 80 men were required to convey a mortar over Blandford hills on its way to West Point.

When the news reached this town that Burgoyne was marching from Canada down the Hudson, many of Blandford's citizens shouldered their muskets and hastened to join our army. Isaac Gibbs received the intelligence at sunset, and during the evening moulded 300 or 400 bullets, and was ready in the morning to mount his horse and repair to the scene of action. He, together with others, arrived at Bennington just after the victory in that celebrated battle had turned in our favor. The fresh troops that had collected from the surrounding country were stationed as guards of the provisions they had captured, while the regular soldiers, weary from hard fighting, enjoyed a season of repose. Some of the prisoners taken at this battle were marched on their way to Boston through this town, where they were caught in a severe snow storm, which occasioned them much suffering. But the people did what they reasonably could for the comfort of the prisoners. The snow soon dissolved and they were able to resume their march.

It is said that, in 1791, Mr. Gibbs brought into town the first single wagon used here. Previous to this time, heavy burdens were transported upon the back of horses. A man, his wife and two or three children would mount a single horse to attend church or to make a visit, so says tradition. The ladies of those days were great equestrians. It was a common occurence for them to ride on horseback from Blandford to Western (now Warren), a distance of 40 miles, in a day. When a number of young ladies rode in company, they enjoyed much pleasure in trying the swiftness of their steeds.

The expenses of the revolutionary war, and the depreciation of the general currency, reduced many of the inhabitants almost to penury; and during a long period after the war, our agriculturists obtained but little cash for their produce. They cleared their lands and prepared the way for future prosperity. Pease, beans, flax and flax-seed were the principal articles of produce. These articles for the most part were transported to

Hartford and exchanged for salt, groceries, and such other goods as they needed. Most of the clothes worn in those times were of home manufacture.

About 1807, Amos M. Collins took up his residence in this town. He was a merchant of considerable wealth from Connecticut. Previous to his arrival, the farmers had devoted their efforts to the cultivation of grain and wool; but the soil and locality were not eminently favorable for growing grain. Mr. Collins induced the farmers to try dairying with reference particularly to butter and cheese. This proposal being accepted by many, he proceeded to New York state and purchased a large drove of cows, which were distributed among the inhabitants. He devoted his efforts patiently and persistently to teaching the people how to make cheese, going from house to house for that purpose. His efforts were highly successful, and resulted in the prosperity of the people. And it became a saying among the farmers that "Mr. Collins was the making of the town." In 1837 there were 1535 cows in the town; 230,000 lbs. of cheese were manufactured annually and 20,000 lbs. of butter. The annual product of cheese was valued at $16,000 and the butter at $3,000. The capital invested was estimated at $60,000 and there were employed 200 men and 300 women. During the time Mr. Collins was in Blandford he is said to have accumulated the handsome little fortune of $25,000. He was succeeded by Orrin Sage, who, for more than thirty years was extensively engaged in buying cheese. He always paid the market price, and the pay was sure. He was highly esteemed as a man of high moral worth in addition to his excellent business ability, and used to be spoken of as "the Bank" of Blandford.

From the period above referred to down to the present time there has been no change in the agricultural prosperity of an upward tendency in the town. It has shared the decadence of the towns of western Hampden. There are many so called abandoned farms, and not a few old farm buildings, evidently erected by prosperous proprietors, have gone to decay. The Blandford farmers of to-day who are blessed with business ability and good business habits are well-to-do. Many of the less well-to-do

farmers cut off the wood and timber from their land and converted it into railroad ties, cord wood and lumber, and many farms are left partly or wholly untilled.

HIGHWAYS

In so mountainous a town as Blandford the making and maintaining of roads is so important in every way, especially in difficulty and expense of construction, as to be an item of historical interest. In Blandford as in all the mountain towns the highways pass over high points of land to the great inconvenience of travel, when, as we view it to-day, better grades could have been secured. One reason at least for this, as in the town of Chester, the settling lots were laid out and located where inconvenient grades could not well be avoided. It cannot justly be charged upon the early settlers that they lacked good judgment in this respect. The fact is, they were poor and had to submit to dictation where they had not the power to choose for themselves. There may have been other reasons. But one good reason is better than many speculative reasons. At any rate the settling lots were from 1000 to 1500 feet above the sea, and the ascent to them from the Westfield river was rather abrupt, and there are a good many "Devil's Stairs" on the way. Mr. Gibbs says: "We are informed that when the first road was made from Springfield west, the pioneers who laid it out traveled to the top of the first hill, then started for the highest peak of the next, and so on, until they arrived at Albany." This is rather fanciful.

The proprietors' plan shows an oblong tract of land laid out in the southwesterly part of the town, and marked on the plan as "Pixley's Farm." A road was laid from Springfield to Great Barrington, and is still called the Old Barrington road, which passed through the south part of Blandford and through the Pixley farm soon after the settlement of the town.

A grant of 300 acres of land was made to Mr. Pixley, who was to "have, occupy and own said land" if he fulfilled the following conditions:—"Provided, that the said Pixley shall erect a public house upon the mountains, half way between Springfield and Great Barrington; and that the said house shall be 40

feet lang, 25 feet wide, and 9 feet posts, etc.; and that the said Pixley shall provide wholesome food for travelers, hay and grain for horses, at the usual prices," etc. Tradition has it that the house was erected, and that for several years it had no floor nor chimney. A fire was constantly kept upon the ground in the center; logs eight and ten feet long were drawn in by a horse and rolled upon the log heap fire, the smoke passing out through a hole in the roof. Roads in those days were hardly worthy the name, and in fact were nearly impassable. For many years the only way of transporting heavy merchandise was upon a dray. In 1795 a mail route from Springfield to Kinderhook passed through Blandford. In 1806 a mail route was established from this town to Hartford.

In 1801, the Eleventh Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation was incorporated to connect with the turnpike from Hartford to the state line, "then into and through the east parish of Granville, to Blandford meeting-house, by the usual Pittsfield road, so called, and into the town of Becket, until it connects with the road of the Eighth Turnpike Corporation."

March 16, 1805, the Blandford and Russell Turnpike Corporation was incorporated, and it was described in the act as "a turnpike road from the dwelling-house of Stephen Sacket, in Westfield, through Russell, to the dwelling-house of Solomon Noble in Blandford." The incorporators were mostly Blandford men. Some of these highways were changed as to location because of the difficulty not only of grade but of building and maintenance of the same over hard ledges and in places where they were very liable to be injured by rains and melting snow. These difficulties in the matter of maintaining highways in this town are and always have been an obstacle to the town's prosperity. Roads of better grade could be constructed, but the distance would be increased as well as the expense of construction, and there are other obvious reasons why such changes are not made. It is stated by Gibbs that between 1800 and 1850 the town had made a total appropriation of $53,360 for the building and repair of highways. There are to-day many miles of fairly good roads; there are some roads of considerable length, somewhat expensive

to keep in repaid, that are maintained apparently to accommodate a very small number of farms. Many of the roads suffer because of heavy teaming over them with narrow-tired wagons.

VILLAGES

There were until 1853 three villages in which the town of Blandford was interested. Part of Chester Village was within the bounds of Blandford. The original north line between this town and Chester, extending from the northwest corner of the town, ended at "Rockhouse corner," so called, it being the point where the corners of Norwich and Montgomery and Blandford met. In the division of the 500-acre lots among the proprietors of Blandford the northeast corner lot fell to John Foye, and out of this lot he sold to John Bolton 27 acres in the immediate vicinity of the Bolton grant of 250 acres in the town of Murrayfield. This was included in Chester Village. The village schoolhouse was about on the Blandford line, which also passed through the village meeting-house. The relations of Blandford people who resided in the northeasterly part of the town, for school and church purposes, were wholly with this village; and their business interests were almost wholly with Chester Village. When Chester Village and the territory immediately surrounding it was annexed to Norwich the new line was carried so far south as to include most of the families thus identified with the social and business interests of Chester Village. This occurred in 1853.

North Blandford is a village located in the northwesterly part of the town. The waters of North Meadow pond flow out through the stream known as Little river, and at the village it takes the waters from Long pond. This stream affords water power of some value, so that this has been a manufacturing village for a long time. Quoting from Gibbs: "Although the inhabitants of this town are (1850) principally employed in agricultural pursuits, its fine water-power is by no means neglected. At the falls, in the north village, the stream descends 150 feet within less than the same number of rods; affording several excellent mill sites."

"About 1812, A. M. Collins and others formed a company for the purpose of manufacturing woolen goods here, and the

materials for erecting a factory, and the necessary machinery, were purchased. But the sudden depression of business at the close of the war, induced them to abandon the project. In 1822 another company was formed, under the firm of Sprague, Gibbs and Lyman, who completed the undertaking and manufactured that kind of goods for several years, and then dissolved, not having realized very large profits. In 1825 Mr. Freegrace Norton became proprietor, and he soon built a second factory and managed their operations successfully. In 1838 Edwin Ely became associated with him as a partner, whose manly course in his public and social relations, gained for him a high reputation for integrity, candor and ability. They also have (1850) a tannery under their control, and are doing an extensive business. In 1832 a paper mill for the manufacture of wrapping paper was erected by Lyman Gibbs, and is now (1850) carried on by W. H. & O. F. Gibbs." The value of the annual products of these mills was estimated at $50,000.

The tannery of David Bates, in the south part of the town, and that of Jarvis Osborn at the center, were profitably employed. There were also several wooden ware manufactories that were doing good business.

Dr. Holland's history (1855) states, referring to North Blandford, that "The tanning business is pursued by Norton and Ely, who have $6,000 invested, employ 11 hands, and turn out $20,000 worth of leather yearly; by Robinson and Bridgham, who have $3,000 invested, employ 6 hands, and produce $8,000 yearly; by Alfred Peckham, with $2,000 invested, 5 hands, and a product of $8,000 yearly, and by David Bates, with $1,000 invested, 3 hands, and a product of $2,000 annually. The total amount invested in tanneries is $12,000, hands employed 25, total annual product $38,000. Foot & Kyle have $2,000 invested in the manufacture of bedsteads, employ 2 hands, and turn out $2,000 worth yearly; Daniel Fay has $500 invested in the same business, employs 3 hands, and turns out a $1,000 yearly. Joseph Kitman makes $1,000 worth of butter prints, rolling pins, etc., yearly, and Gibbs & Brother $1,400 worth of wooden bowls. Lyman Gibbs has $4,000 invested in a paper mill whose operative

force is 4 hands, and whose product is $4,000. Norton & Ely, and Gibbs & Brother have each a team constantly engaged in carting goods, lumber, leather, etc., between Blandford and the depot at Chester Factories, to an aggregate amount of not less than 500 tons annually."

At one time the business of making starch from potatoes was successfully prosecuted at North Blandford, consuming many tons of potatoes annually.

CHURCHES AT NORTH BLANDFORD

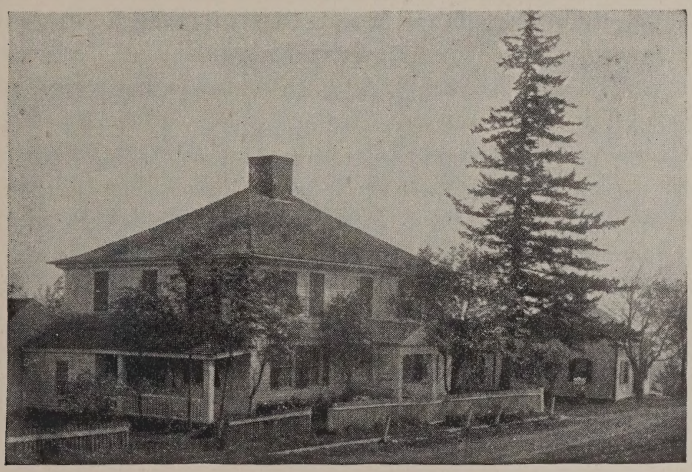
The meeting-house of the First Methodist church was built at North Blandford in 1845. Rev. J. B. Bigelow was the first pastor, and he was succeeded by Mr. Barnan, Mr. Sherman, Mr. Wood and others. In 1878 Rev. W. T. Miller was in charge, being also pastor at the Center until 1880, at which time the church numbered about 70 members. A few years ago the meeting-house was destroyed by fire; and as it was not rebuilt, the work of the church was discontinued, and the records were removed; so that a full list of pastors has not been obtained for this sketch.

The church at North Blandford at this time is the Second Congregational church, organized in 1893. The pastor in charge in 1901 was Rev. Sumner G. Wood, who was also pastor of the First Congregational church.

A Methodist Episcopal church of great antiquity is said to have once existed in the south part of the town at a place known as "Beach Hill" near the north line of Granville.

Blandford Village, where, and near which, the first settlers established their homes, is not a manufacturing locality. It is more particularly an agricultural section. But whatever else it produced, it produced men of sterling worth. Eli Boise was the first young man that went to college from Blandford. He entered Yale college in 1788, but died before finishing his course. William Boise graduated at Williams college in 1801, and became a clergyman. Joseph Boise graduated at Williams college in 1807 and became a lawyer. Patrick Boise graduated at Williams college in 1808, and became a lawyer and settled in Westfield.

Artemas Boise graduated at Williams college in 1816 and entered the ministry. Gardner Hayden graduated at Williams college in 1816 and entered the ministry. J. Hooker Ashmun graduated at Williams college and became professor in the law school at Harvard university. Hon. George Ashmun graduated at Yale college in 1823, and became an able lawyer. He was a representative in Congress at one time. He was a prominent character, and had a national reputation. Lester Lloyd graduated at Williams college and became a lawyer. He settled in



An old house on Blandford Hill

Ohio. Horace Smith graduated at Williams college in 1819, and became a lawyer. Asa Blair graduated at Yale college in 1810, and entered the ministry. Harper Boise graduated at Williams college in 1825 and entered the ministry. John P. Boise graduated at Union college, and he became judge of a circuit court in Illinois. Augustus Collins graduated at Williams college in 1825 and became a teacher. Aratus Knox entered Washington college, Hartford, Conn., in 1825, but died before completing the course. Russell A. Wilson graduated at Union college in 1823, and became a lawyer. Eli W. Lloyd was a member of the senior class in Union college, and died in Ohio in 1834, aged 22. Samuel

Knox, son of General Alanson Knox, graduated at Williams college in 1833, and went into the practice of law at St. Louis, Mo. Custing Eels graduated at Williams college in 1830, and entered the ministry. Simeon Shurtleff graduated at Amherst college in 1834, and entered the medical profession. Chauncey Hall graduated at Amherst college in 1835 and entered the medical profession. Edwin Hall graduated at Jacksonville, Ill., in 1837, and entered the ministry. Tyrrill Blair graduated at Williams college and entered the ministry. D. P. Robinson graduated at the Wesleyan university, Middletown, Conn., in 1841, and engaged in mercantile business in Blandford. James R. Boise graduated at Brown university in 1844 and became professor of Greek in that university. Franklin O. Blair graduated at the Wesleyan university in 1848 and became a teacher. James C. Hinsdale graduated at Yale college in 1848 and became a lawyer. Patrick R. Boise graduated at Williams college in 1843 and became a lawyer. Fisher A. Boise graduated at Williams college in 1849 and became a lawyer. Daniel Butler received a liberal education and entered the ministry. Henry Smith Atwater received a liberal education and entered the ministry. Catherine Wright and Celia Wright, daughters of Dr. S. P. Wright, Sarah Hinsdale, daughter of Rev. Chas. J. Hinsdale, Mary Pease, daughter of Eli Pease, and Mary P. Boise, daughter of Reuben Boise, all graduated at Mt. Holyoke seminary between 1842 and 1850.

Some superior men have been raised in Blandford, who had not the advantage of a collegiate education. Eli P. Ashmun was the first lawyer who took up his residence in this town. He subsequently represented Massachusetts in the United States senate; Gen. Alanson Knox, a lawyer; Reuben Knox, a skillful physician; Joseph Knox, a lawyer; William Blair, a lawyer; Phineas Blair, a lawyer; David Scott, a lawyer, and judge of a circuit court in Pennsylvania; George Scott, a lawyer; David Scott, a physician; Anson Boise, a physician; Eli Boise and Levi Boise, brothers, were physicians; Thomas Baird, a lawyer; Eli and Otis Boise, physicians; Albert Boise, a lawyer; William Baird, a physician; Chester W. Freeland, physician;

Edward Hatch, a physician; Lewis J. Blair, a physician; Lester Noble, a prominent dentist; Samuel S. Rogers, a physician; Noah S. Bartlett, a physician; Heman S. Lucas, a physician, who settled in Chester; Roxwell Tracy, a physician. Thus the record stood in 1850. It is probable that from that date to the present time others could be added to it. But perhaps this is enough to show the quality of the people who settled this town. What better evidence can we need that the town of Blandford was not settled in vain? As has been already explained, "most of the first settlers organized into a church under the Presbyterian form and usages, before they left Hopkinton." To quote now from Mr. Gibbs' address: "Their attention was early and earnestly directed to the establishment of the gospel ministry in this place. They seemed to feel as if their prosperity and well-being depended upon this object. The measures taken for hiring and ordaining ministers were transacted in town meetings, and, as appears from the journal of proceedings, formed a great portion of the business of the meetings. It was the only object for which they seemed willing to raise money and pay taxes. The church, as an independent body, gave the invitation to the ministers, while the town meeting in a parochial character, gave advice and direction to the church. The Presbyterian mode of government was continued until the year 1801. In the month of September of that year the church finding it 'inconvenient to practice according to the Presbyterian plan of government,' adopted a new and separate form of government, viz.: the Congregational."

The Rev. Mr. Keep gives the following description of the first meeting-house erected in this town: "The original proprietors of the town entered into a covenant with the first settlers, to set up the frame of a meeting-house, and to cover the outside and put in glass windows. This they were to do for the people, besides giving them ten acres of land in the center, for a common, and one hundred sixty-acre lots. The frame of the meeting-house was set up 1740. The men who assisted in raising it were most of them from Westfield and Suffield. The frame stood one year, the sport of winds and tempests, before it was

covered. The boards which were used for the covering were brought from Southampton and Westfield. But the glass windows were not supplied until after a lapse of more than twelve years. Thirteen years the people met in the house for worship without any floor in it, excepting some loose boards, the earth, and the rock upon which it stood. Their seats were blocks, boards and movable benches. A plain box, instead of a pulpit, was used for the accommodation of the preachers. The first floor was laid in 1753, four years after the ordination of their second minister. In 1759 they '*Voted,* To build a pulpit to make a pew for the minister, and to build seats in the body of the house, upon the ground floor.' This was a great effort as it was carried into effect. It was next allowed to individuals who felt disposed, to occupy either side of the house with pews, if they would make them at their own expense, and finish them by the end of the year, and build up the walls to the girts. In 1760 it was voted to lay the floor in the front gallery. The next year the gallery timbers on the sides were put up, and the stairs built. In 1781 it was voted to take up the seats in the body of the house, except two next to the pulpit, and to fill up the ground floor with pews. In the following year the two side galleries were made by taking the seats from below, and the walls ceiled up to the girts. In 1786 the house (forty-six years from the raising of the frame) was plastered. The steeple was built by subscription. In 1789 the town voted to give the subscribers liberty to erect a steeple, but refused to appropriate anything in aid of it. The year following the town agreed to purchase a bell. In 1791 measures were taken to put on a new covering and to paint the same. In 1794 the timbers under the gallery were covered, and in the autumn of 1805, a few days previous to my ordination, the posts and some other timbers were cased, etc. Such is a brief history of this house for religious worship, and all must allow, considering the manner in which it was built, that its appearance is quite as good as could be expected. We may look around these walls and say: 'Sixty and five years was this house in the process of building.' But we cannot add, 'Its glory corresponds with the use for which it was designed,' or, 'the circumstances of the

people for whose accommodation it was erected.' Nor can we say, 'Lord, we offer the first and the best.' ''

Mr. Keep also says, that ''previous to 1775 the method of singing had been for all who felt disposed to join their voices, while the clerk or deacon read the line of the psalms as they were sung. To this method some were so attached as to plead a wounded conscience when any change was proposed.'' The leaders of church music were chosen at town meetings, and were under the implied, if not expressed direction, to conduct the singing in the ''good old way.'' A modern chorister may smile at the following vote, passed as late as 1771. The question was raised whether the singing should be carried on with the beat?—it was voted in the negative.

Caleb Taylor, of Westfield, was the first singing master who taught here and when he named the tune and sang with the beat, many were so grieved at the indecency of the method that they actually left the meeting-house.

''This church has been favored with talented preachers, who have exerted a salutary influence. Look at the graduating list of our colleges. Notice the number which have gone forth to preach 'Christ and him crucified' from this town.'' The following are the names of the pastors who have been settled over this society:

Rev. William McClenathan, settled 1744.

Rev. Mr. Morton, settled 1749.

Rev. Joseph Patrick, settled 1772.

Rev. Joseph Badger, settled, settled 1787.

Rev. John Keep, settled 1805.

Rev. Dorus Clark, settled 1823.

Rev. Charles J. Hinsdale, settled 1836.

Rev. Arthur W. Field, settled Nov. 13, 1872; dismissed April 23, 1879.

Rev. Daniel B. Lord, settled Dec. 15, 1880; dismissed May 31, 1883.

Rev. Allan Conant Ferrin, settled June 30, 1896; dismissed Sept. 19, 1900.

Rev. Sumner G. Wood, installed June 26, 1901.

Mr. Gibbs adds: "Blandford took the lead in this region by erecting a new house for religious worship. This church edifice which was built in 1822, has been an honor to the town, and is spoken of abroad as being the noblest on the mountains." In a clear day this snow-white meeting-house can be seen from several points in Springfield.

The Episcopal Church was located on the westerly side of North street near the point where the road from Huntington enters this street. For many years this meeting-house stood a silent and deserted witness that an Episcopal society once existed in Blandford.

The Protestant Episcopal Society in Blandford was incorporated February 2, 1799. The corporators were Sanford Thomson, Jedediah Smith, Russell Atwater, Timothy Hatch, Samuel Sloper, William Knox, 3d, William Thomson, David Hamilton, Joseph Harvey, David Butler, John Webster, James Beard, James Sennett, Luke Osborn, Jonathan Frary, Nathan Stewart, Frederick Falley, John Morton, James Slade, Thoda Garrett, David Hannum, James Hamilton, William Montgomery, Charles Plum, Perry Button, George Smith, Francis Hamilton, Benjamin Harrington, Samuel Moor, George Nies, Thomas Moor, Ezekiel Cannon, Benjamin Bowers, John Bowers, Newell Bowers, Oliver Knox, Abijah Babcock, Jacob Plum, Jonas Johnson, William Mitchell, David C. Osborn, Roger Parks, David Knox, 2d, Matthew Blair, Seth Webster, William Wooldridge, Phineas Ashmun, Timothy Linus Hatch, Nathan Gibbs, Samuel Sloper, Jr., and John Frost.

"In regard to the Episcopal Church," Mr. Gibbs says, "we have not been able to learn much of its early history. We are informed, however, that about the year 1790, the Rev. Mr. Badger asked for a dismission from the Presbyterian Church, but was refused by his church and society. This placed Mr. Badger in a dilemma from which it required no little stratagem to extricate himself. To succeed in his wishes, it is said he commenced preaching with great power and efficiency the doctrine of unconditional election. This caused a division in the congregation. The disaffected portion separated from the other

and established a new church after the form of the Church of England. This church sustained preaching a part of the time, until about the 1830. At this time the church erected an Episcopal church edifice. The institutions of the church were sustained for about fifteen years. They have (1850) a snug fund, the object of which is to sustain the ministry.''

The intensely religious spirit of the first settlers of Blandford may be further illustrated by a ''covenant with God,'' written and signed by David Boies, as follows:

''Eternal Jehovah, I desire to come unto thee a poor wretched sinner, a miserable creature who am full of sin and of iniquity, defiled in all the powers and faculties of both soul and body by reason of original sin and actual transgression, and am justly liable unto thy wrath and displeasure not only in this world, but also in that which is to come, and that I can by no power of mine own nor no created being, either angels or men, can help me out of this miserable condition in which I am, and seeing those hast made known to me in thy Blessed name that there is a way provided for the relief and recovery of poor sinners in and through Jesus Christ, and hath been pleased to condescend so low as to make known to me the way how to obtain the pardon of my sins and be again restored unto God's favour, and the way is if ever I expect salvation in and through the blessed redeemer Jesus Christ I must be denied to myself and all mine own righteousness and to accept of him as he is freely offered in the Gospel and to be for thee and never for another, and to follow thee through good report and Bad report and to continue faithful unto my life's end.

''And now O Lord the Eternal God, the wonderful, condescending and merciful God, the heart searching and reintrieng God who hath been pleased of thy boundless and infinit mercy to provide such a way of relief in and through Jesus Christ the only Saviour and redeemer of poor Lost and undon sinners and hast made proclamation in the Gospel that whosoever cometh to thee in and through him thou will in no way cast out, and has invited the weary heavy laden sinner to come unto thee and they shall find rest unto their soule and seeing O Lord

God thou hast been pleased to invite such a poor wretched sinner as I am to come and enter into covenant with thee who Deserveth rather to be cast into hell for my sins than to have such a kind offer made unto me: yet O Lord God seeing thou art pleased of thy infinit mercy to condecend so low as to invite me poor sinfull miserabl me to come and enter into covenant with thee, which would have indeed Been unpardonable presumption in me to have attempted to do were it not that thou has invited me to come. I do hartily imbrace the offer O Lord Let it be a Bargin Lord of Belive help my unbelif Lord I give myself to thee to be for thee and to serve thee for ever Lord let thy grace be suficent for me and now O Lord my request and my petition is to thee for Grace to help me to perform this covenant aright and O Lord God let not my failings mak void this covenant: now O Lord God what I have now don on earth let it be ratified in heaven amen and amen.

"Deated the 18th of April; 1728 David Boies."

The penmanship of the original is excellent. All the peculiarities of the original are, so far as possible, preserved in the above copy.

At Blandford village:

"In the year 1826 a Baptist church was organized, consisting of about 40 members. The following year the Rev. Charles A. Turner was ordained, and preached here for several years. During his ministration numbers were added by baptism and profession of faith to the church. There are several worthy families who have sustained preaching a part of the time until the past year." (1849). *From Mr. Gibbs' address.* At that time they numbered 35 members.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at the village of Blandford was organized and a meeting-house erected about 1846; and it has been quite prosperous since its organization. Mr. D. P. Robinson and the Rev. N. E. Cobleigh were active in its organization. About this time there was a transfer of many members from the church at North Blandford to this church.

Rev. N. E. Cobleigh appears to have been the first pastor in the years 1845-1846; Rev. Mr. Ward, 1847-1848; Rev. Mr. Cha-

pin, 1848-1850; Rev. H. M. Bridges, 1851-1852; Rev. M. Leffingwell, 1853; Rev. B. F. Green, 1854; Rev. J. W. Lee, 1855-1856; Rev. J. H. Gaylord, 1857; Rev. J. Capen, 1858-1859; Rev. Ephraim Scott, 1860; Rev. F. C. Morse, 1861- August 1862, when he enlisted in the civil war; Rev. Thomas B. Treadwell, 1863-1864; Rev. J. H. Gaylord, 1865-1866; Rev. E. J. Stevens, 1867-1868; Rev. D. K. Merrill, 1869-1870; Rev. N. M. D. Granger, 1871-1872; Rev. R. F. Holway, 1873-1874; Rev. George Hewes, 1875; Rev. J. W. Cole, 1876-1877; Rev. W. T. Miller, 1878-1880; Rev. A. O. Abbott, 1881-1883; Rev. W. Ferguson, 1884-1885; Rev. Joseph Wood, 1886; Rev. W. H. Atkinson, 1887-1888; Rev. Joseph Wood, 1886; Rev. W. H. Atkinson, 1887, 1888; Rev. George Hudson, 1889-1891; Rev. John Van Bast, 1892; Rev. Nelson L. Porter, 1893-1895; Rev. John Mason, 1896; Rev. J. Hall Long, 1897; Rev. E. B. Marshall, 1898-1900; Rev. H. H. Weyant, 1901.

Mr. Gibbs in his address in 1850, devoted some space to the subject of Temperance in Blandford, and quoted some votes taken at town-meetings to pay for liquors used in connection with some officers touching the church. This of itself was not unusual in those times. Other town records show like votes. He notes that "There have been in Blandford since the incorporation of the town, 38 taverners. Of these 3 died of delirium tremens; 17 became intemperate; one died in the poor house; 18 lost their property; 17 did not improve their pecuniary condition by the business. *Three only* acquired property; 4 were cursed with intemperate wives; 25 sons and 4 daughters became intemperate."

At a reunion of the sons and daughters of Blandford August 26, 1897, Rev. H. L. Hastings, the orator of the day, gave substantially the account quoted above from Mr. Gibbs' address, and added this fact: "I know an old cellar in the town of Blandford, where, I have been told, 200 barrels of cider have been stored in the fall, and rolled out in the spring and distilled into brandy, which was drank and sold; and the man who owned that cellar was a preacher of the gospel." It is a lamentable fact that the condition of things in Blandford justify the above

statements. "Early in the 19th century the pastor of the church, Rev. John Keep, fought the rum traffic single handed and alone." But, to the credit of the town, such a state of things could not exist, nor would it be tolerated to-day. It is a relict of the olden time when taverns were scattered along the highways every four or five miles—in the old stage times and when the old methods of transportation were in use—before the railroad came.

Mr. Gibbs gives an account of minerals in Blandford on the authority of Dr. Shurtleff, then residing in Westfield. But the general chapter on the geology of the county refers to everything of practical value.

But Mr. Gibbs gives an account of an incident which the writer used to hear accounts of in his boyhood, and it was believed to have some foundation in fact. "About the year 1795, John Baird, who lived in the north part of the 'second division', discovered a mass of lead and silver ore near the north line of the town. He cast a portion of it into balls, and sent one pound of it by Mr. Knox, then our Representative, to Boston, to be analyzed. It proved to contain nine ounces of lead and and two ounces of silver to the pound. A number of gentlemen from Boston made Mr. Baird an offer, which would make him independently rich, if he would show them the place where he had discovered the ore. He went from home in a clear sun-shiny day through the wilderness into a valley which united with the Chester river. The fog from the river rendered said valley so dark that it frightened Baird, who was superstitious, to such a degree that neither money nor friends could induce him ever after to visit the place. Hundreds have searched for that mine, but have never discovered it. There is no doubt but that if found, it might be worked to great pecuniary advantage." There were many people in Blandford and in Chester who concurred with Mr. Gibbs' opinion. Several attempts have been made in Blandford to search both for silver and gold.

The population of the town. In 1776, 772; 1790, 1,416; 1800, 1,778; 1810, 1,613; 1820, 1,515; 1830, 1,590; 1840, 1,427; 1850, 1,515; 1860, 1,256; 1870, 1,020; 1880, 979; 1890, 871; 1900, 836.

Burial places. There are four cemeteries in town; the most ancient is in the village of Blandford near the school house, and

was laid out in 1742. The new cemetery in the village is opposite the meeting-house. There is one at North Blandford, and there is one in the south part of the town about 1½ miles south of Blair pond.

School houses. There are twelve school houses in the town. The first action of the town upon the subject of schools appears to have been taken in September, 1756, when the town voted that £3 be expended to hire a school teacher. The first regular school in town was taught by James Carter, a sea captain, in the house of Robert Black. For several years the schools were kept in dwelling houses, and continued only two months in the year. In 1758, the town voted "That the five pounds Given to us By the Honorable Corte and two pounds more to Be applied to the use of schooling."

The record shows that in 1759 the town voted £6 for school purposes that year; and Isaac Gibbs, James Montgomery, William Mitchell were chosen a committee to look after the schools, and hire teachers. In 1760 £10 were appropriated for schooling. In 1762 the town was divided into three school districts, and three school houses were built, after which rapid progress was made in education, a teacher being employed for three months in the year. In 1802 the town was divided into thirteen school districts. One of these districts included a part of Chester Village.

During the year 1805 widow Jane Taggart bequeathed to school district number 3 $1,200 for the purposes of education within that district. And by act of the legislature, March 9, 1808, Ephraim Gibbs and eighteen others were incorporated as "trustees to receive and hold said legacy, and all other money for the purpose aforesaid, however accruing, to the amount of eighty-five hundred dollars; and real estate to the amount of five thousand dollars in trust, for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of said district, and the permanent support of schools within the same; and shall constitute a body politic and corporate, to have perpetual succession for the due and faithful management of said trust; and shall be vested with all powers incident to corporations, necessary or requisite for that purpose."

Union Agricultural Society Fair, 1897. "A Blandford Cattle Show" Exhibit

In March, 1833, an additional act was passed by the legislature, constituting the freeholders of the district the trustees of the fund. This fund was put at interest. By aid of this fund the cause of education was greatly advanced not only in that district but in the town at large.

There is a *Free Library* in the village. The number of books in 1897, 1,756 volumes.

Agricultural Society. The Union Agricultural and Horticutural Society was incorporated in 1867. The act states that "Enos W. Boies, Howard P. Robinson, Henry A. Blair, their associates and successors, are hereby made a corporation by the name of the Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and established in the town of Blandford," etc. It originally raised by contribution $4,447.23; and in 1897 had $9,000 invested as a capital stock in real estate and personal. Total assets $9,099.65, of which $8,000 was in real estate. In that year it paid in premiums and gratuities $1,152, which went to 19 cities and towns. One hundred and ninety-eight received premiums and ninety-two gratuities. The society reported 1,308 members—605 males and 703 females. The annual fairs and cattle shows held on the sightly grounds of the society, are attended by hundreds of people from the surrounding towns, and the occasion is Blandford's gala day.

Blandford as a summer resort. The great altitude of this town, the extensive view from the village and vicinity, the dry and invigorating atmosphere, the unsurpassed opportunities for erecting fine residences with ample grounds, and the fine drives about the town, bring many people every summer from Springfield and other cities to this locality. A stage runs from the village to the railroad station to Russell twice a day or oftener, a distance of 4 miles. There have usually been two hotels in the village. But many of the summer residents occupy their own cottages, the number of which increases yearly. The citizens are hopeful that in a year or two they will enjoy the advantages of a line of trolley cars to Russell.

The following is a list of Blandford men who served in the revolutionary war:

Minute men who responded to the Lexington alarm: Capt. John Ferguson, Lieut. David Hamilton, Sergeants Silas Noble, James Nut; Corporals James Stewart, Moses Ker; Privates Timothy Blair, Joseph Baird, Archable Black, John Crooks, Cornelius Cochran, Solomon Ferguson, Samuel Hamilton, Oliver Knox, John Knox, James Knox, David Kennedy, John Kennedy, William Mitchell, Alexander Moroson, John Proven, Matthew Proven, Jehial Stewart, Spencer Stewart, John Savage, John Wheeler, Jonathan Henry, Reuben Boies, Robert Blair, Joel Boies.

Names of those other than the minute men who served in the war: James Anderson, John Ashmun, Stephen Bullard, Barzilla Benjamin, Nathan Bennett, Ebenezer Bartlett, John Blair, David Boies, David Butler, Thomas Bigelow, David Blair, David Black, James Blair, Jr., Matthew Blair, Jacob Blair, John Black, Seth Blair, William Crooks, Nathaniel Cannon, David Campbell, John Coney, Robert Currey, William Cannon, Samuel Ellis, William Fullerton, Elisha Fobes, Jonathan Frarey, Joseph Gilbert, Warham Gunn, James Gilmore, John Gibb, Isaac Gibbs, William Gilmore, David Harroun, Asa Havens, Jonah Halliday, Charles Hewes, James Hogan, Joel Hayden, David Knox, William Knox, Elijah Knox, William Lindsey, John Lindsey, William Longhead, James Longhead, 2d., John Longhead, 2d., David McConoughey, Michael McManus, James Matthews, Elijah More, James More, Alexander Morrison, William Morrison, Robert McGorney, James Pelton, Abner Pease, Abner Ramsey, Spencer Stow, Jedediah Simonds, Timothy Simonds, Joshua Stevens, Moses Steward, Sylvanus Steward, Christopher Smith, Samuel Sloper, William Thompson, Stephen Velleau, Joel White, Ephraim Warfield, Jonathan Gregg Wilson, Moses Wheeler, John White, John Wilson, Reuben Warfield, John Watson, James Wallace, Stephen Ward.

Names of men who served for Blandford, but were from other towns: James Law of Boston, Thomas Thorp of Boston, William Fry of Boston, Gilbert McIntire, Michael Tuway, John Benbeck, Samuel Fry, all of Boston; Henry Flood of Falmouth, Jonathan Bissell of Windsor, Elijah Atkinson, a sea-faring man,

Paul Langdon of Cambridge, Jonathan Norton, a transient man, Timothy Smith of Murrayfield, Samuel Peters of London and Moses Eggleston of Murrayfield.

CIVIL LIST

Selectmen. 1742-43, David Boies, Robert Cook, Jas. Hazzard, John Stewart, John Young; 1744, Wm. Knox, David Boies, John Steward, Jas. Hazzard, Jas. Montgomery; 1745, David Boies, Wm. Knox, John Stewart, Jas. Montgomery, Jas, Hazzard; 1746, Thomas Read, John Hamilton, Matthew Blair, William Donohue, David Campbell; 1747, David Boies, Robert Wilson, Jas. Montgomery, John Stewart, John Hamilton; 1748, Samuel Crooks, Israel Gibbs, Matthew Blair, James Baird, Robert Black; 1749, Walter Stewart, Israel Gibbs, John Knox, Robert Black, Matthew Blair; 1750, David Boies, Robert Henry, Israel Gibbs, William Knox, Matthew Blair; 1751, Robert Henry, Walter Stewart, Matthew Blair, William Boies, Robert Black; 1752, David Boies, David McConoughey, Israel Gibbs, Walter Stewart, William Boies; 1753, Robert Huston, Israel Gibbs, William Huston, Robert Henry, John Boies; 1754, Robert Henry, Robert Blair, William Boies, Robert Black, John Boies; 1755, Robert Henry, William Boies, Matthew Blair, Robert Black, John Boies; 1756, Robert Henry, Robert Black, William Boies, John Hamilton; 1757, Robert Henry, Robert Black, Samuel Boies, David Black, William Knox; 1758, Robert Henry, John Knox, David Black, John Boies, James Montgomery; 1759, Robert Henry, Israel Gibbs, John Knox, Matthew Blair, John Hamilton; 1760, Robert Henry, John Knox, Robert Black, David McConoughey, John Hamilton; 1761, Robert Henry, David McConoughey, Robert Black, William Mitchell, William Knox; 1762, Samuel Boies, David Black, John Hamilton, Nathaniel Pease, William Knox; 1763, Samuel Boies, Nathaniel Pease, William Knox, William Boies, Robert Blair; 1764, John Hamilton, Robert Henry, David McConoughey, Nathaniel Pease, William Boies; 1765, William Boies, William Knox, Israel Gibbs, William Mitchell, John Hamilton; 1766, Robert Blair, John Wilson, William Mitchell, William Knox, Samuel Ferguson; 1767, John

Hamilton, Robert Blair, William Boies, John Knox, William Mitchell; 1768, Robert Blair, William Boies, John Hamilton, Israel Gibbs; 1769, Robert Blair, William Boies, John Hamilton, John Scott, Jr., Alexander Osborn; 1770, Robert Blair, William Boies, William Knox, Israel Gibbs, David McConoughey; 1771, William Boies, Robert Blair, William Knox, John Scott, David McConoughey; 1772, William Knox, Robert Blair, Samuel Boies, William Carnahan, William Boies; 1773-74, William Knox, William Carnahan, Solomon Brown, John Furguson, Juda Bement; 1775, Juda Bement, David McConoughey, William Carnahan, William Knox, Samuel Boies; 1776, Samuel Boies, Juda Bement, David McConoughey, Samuel Sloper, John Knox; 1777, John Knox, Samuel Boies, Juda Bement, Solomon Stewart, Isaac Gibbs; 1778, William Boies, Samuel Sloper, Solomon Stewart, John Furguson, Isaac Gibbs; 1779, Samuel Sloper, David Conoughey, Nathaniel Taggart, Ephraim Gibbs, Solomon Brown; 1780, John Wilson, John Furguson, William Knox, Robert Blair, Israel Gibbs; 1781, Wareham Parks, Justin Ashmun, John Gibbs, Samuel Ferguson, Samuel Cannon; 1782, Wareham Parks, David McConoughey, William Boies, Justin Ashmun, John Scott; 1783, William Boies, Wareham Parks, John Scott, Reuben Boies, John Hamilton; 1784, Wareham Parks, John Scott, Samuel Boies, Samuel Sloper, John Ferguson; 1785, Wareham Parks, Samuel Sloper, John Scott, John Watson, Robert Lawhead; 1786, Samuel Sloper, Samuel Boies, John Ferguson, Justin Ashmun, John Watson; 1787, Samuel Sloper, Samuel Boies, John Cochran, David Boies, Asa Blair; 1788, John Ferguson, Samuel Beard, Reuben Boies, Isaac Gibbs, Samuel Knox; 1789, John Ferguson, Reuben Boies, Robert Blair, Jr., Timothy Blair, Timothy Hatch; 1790, Robert Blair, Jr., Reuben Boies, Timothy Hatch, Asa Blair, Samuel Boies; 1791-92, Robert Blair, Jr., Reuben Boies, Timothy Hatch, Timothy Blair, David Boies; 1793, Samuel Sloper, Reuben Boies, David Boies, Ebenezer Bruce, Adam Blair; 1794, David McConoughey, David Boies, Asa Blair, Samuel Knox, Timothy Hatch; 1795, David McConoughey, David Boies, Reuben Boies, Rufus Blair, William Knox; 1796, David McConoughey, William Knox, Timothy

Hatch, William Knox, Jr., Jedediah Smith; 1797, David Boies, Jedediah Smith, William Knox, Reuben Boies, Samuel Knox; 1798, David Boies, William Knox, Asa Blair, Abner Pease, Russell Atwater; 1799, David Boies, Asa Blair, David McConoughey, Abner Pease, John Crooks; 1800, David Boies, William Knox, Reuben Boies, Asa Blair, David McConoughey; 1801, Asa Blair, Russell Atwater, William Knox, Reuben Boies, John Hamilton; 1802, David Boies, Reuben Boies, Adam Blair, Russell Atwater, Reuben Blair; 1803, Asa Blair, David Boies, Reuben Boies, Reuben Blair, Eli P. Ashmun; 1804, Reuben Boies, Eli P. Ashmun, David Boies, Samuel Knox, Asa Blair; 1805; Eli P. Ashmun, David Boies, William Knox, Reuben Boies, Abijah Babcock; 1806, Eli P. Ashmun, Samuel Knox, Reuben Blair, William Knox, Abijah Babcock; 1807, David Boies, William Knox, Samuel Knox, Asa Blair, Nathaniel Cannon; 1808, William Knox, Reuben Boies, Adam Blair, David C. Osborne, Samuel Boies, 2d; 1809, David Boies, Asa Blair, Samuel Knox, David Boies, 2d, Robert Lloyd; 1810, Samuel Knox, David Boies, 2d, Andrew Wilson, Robert Lloyd, John Hamilton; 1811, Samuel Knox, Reuben Blair, David Boies, Samuel C. Gibbs; 1812, Samuel Knox, Andrew Wilson, Reuben Blair, Solomon Noble, Isaac Lloyd; 1813, Samuel Knox, Reuben Blair, Andrew Wilson, David Boies, 2d, David Blair, 2d; 1814, Samuel Knox, Andrew Wilson, David Boies, 2d, David Blair, 2d, Isaac Lloyd; 1815, Samuel Knox, Reuben Boies, David Boies, 2d, Andrew Wilson, Abner Gibbs; 1816, Reuben Boies, David Boies, 2d, Isaac Lloyd, Andrew White, Abner Gibbs; 1817, Reuben Boies, David Boies, 2d, Abner Gibbs, David Blair, 2d, John Gibbs; 1818, Abner Gibbs, David Blair, 2d, Isaac Lloyd, Reuben Boies, 2d., Israel Cannon; 1819, Abner Gibbs, Reuben Boies, Jr., John Gibbs, Setphen Rowley, Henry Knox; 1820, Abner Gibbs, David Boies, 3d, David Blair, Jr.; 1821, David Blair, Jr., Reuben Boies, Jr., David Boies, 2d; 1822, Reuben Boies, Jr., David Boies, 3d, Robert Lloyd, Enos Boies, Israel Cannon; 1823, Reuben Boies, Jr., David Blair, Jr., Israel Cannon; 1824; David Blair, Jr., Israel Cannon, Henry Tracy, Justin Wilson, James Watson; 1825-26, Israel Cannon, Henry Tracy, Justin Wilson;

1827, Henry Tracy, Justin Wilson, David Blair, 3d; 1828, Henry Tracy, Justin Wilson, Adam Blair, Jr.; 1829, Henry Tracy, Adam Blair, Curtis Knox; 1830, Adam Blair, Jr., Justin Wilson, Oliver Watson; 1831, Abner Gibbs, David Parks, Curtis Hall; 1832, Logan Crosby, Alfred Smith, Porter Gibbs; 1833, Logan Crosby, Alfred Smith, Kilbourn Bates; 1834-35, Kilbourn Bates, Curtis Hall, Spelman Gibbs; 1836, Kilbourn Bates, Lester E. Gibbs, Joel Hall; 1837, Lester E. Gibbs, David Parks, Reuben Boies; 1838, Edward Ely, Curtis Hall, Milton Boies; 1839, Orrin Sage, Lyman Gibbs, Justin Wilson; 1840, Lyman Gibbs, Orrin Sage, Olcott Osborn; 1841, Orrin Sage, Olcott Osborn; 1842, Olcott Osborn, Leverett Sackett, William C. Clark; 1843, Justin Wilson, Leverett Sackett, Kilbourn Bates; 1844, Justin Wilson, Adam Blair, Edwin Ely; 1845, Adam Blair, Edwin Ely, Kilbourn Bates; 1846, Edwin Ely, Orrin Sage, Justin Knox; 1847, Justin Wilson, F. W. Gibbs, Albert Knox; 1848, George C. Gibbs, John F. Collister, Westley L. Boies; 1849, W. L. Boies, John F. Collister, Thomas S. Chaffe; 1850, T. S. Chaffe, Leverett Sackett, John Parks; 1851, Albert Knox, John Parks, S. A. Bartholomew; 1852, Albert Knox, S. A. Bartholomew, Thomas Herrick; 1853, Thomas Herrick, S. A. Bartholomew, John Cross; 1854, Albert Knox, Leverett Sackett, Curtis Hall; 1855, Thomas S. Chaffe, Linus Shepard, Stephen Burton; 1856, S. A. Bartholomew, Israel M. Gibbs, Eli P. Hayden; 1857, Samuel A. Bartholomew, E. W. Shepard, Eli H. Osborn; 1858, E. W. Shepard, Alva Foot, Eli Osborn; 1859, E. W. Shepard, Eli Osborn, Charles Lee; 1860, George C. Gibbs, Frank C. Knox, B. S. Bracket; 1861, T. S. Chaffe, Lyman K. Norton, David Bates; 1862, James C. Hinsdale, William M. Lewis, Alfred Peckham; 1863, Watson E. Boies, Francis Bates, Eli A. Cross; 1864, Samuel A. Bartholomew, William M. Lewis, H. D. Tinker; 1865, William M. Lewis, Eli Osborn, George C. Collister; 1866, Eli Osborn, Charles M. Wait, Henry K. Herrick; 1867, George C. Gibbs, F. C. Knox, William H. H. Blair; 1868, Francis Bates, Franklin C. Knox, Alva Bishop; 1869, F. C. Knox, Wm. H. H. Blair, Eli A. Cross; 1870, Franklin C. Knox, Noah B. Nye, James F. Blair; 1871, Henry K. Herrick, Noah B. Nye, James F. Blair; 1872, E. W. Shepard,

George C. Collister, James W. Knox; 1873, Franklin C. Knox, Henry S. Burdick, Lewis C. Nye; 1874, F. C. Knox, S. A. Bartholomew, Lewis C. Nye; 1875-79, H. K. Herrick, James W. Knox, Jarvis J. Lloyd; 1880, James W. Knox, Jarvis J. Lloyd, William Bates; 1881, 1882, James W. Knox, Lyman R. Nye, William Bates; 1883, James W. Knox, William Bates, William H. Watson; 1884, William Bates, William H. Watson, Martin S. Phelps; 1885, 1886, 1887, James W. Knox, Henry E. Lee, Marvin A. Hall; 1888, James W. Knox, Fred M. Waite, Edward W. Bennett; 1889, James W. Knox, Fred M. Waite, Joseph H. Moore; 1890, James W. Knox, Fred M. Waite, E. A. Bishop; 1891, James W. Knox, E. A. Bishop, H. S. Burdick; 1892, E. A. Bishop, H. S. Burdick, William H. Lewis; 1893, E. A. Bishop, William H. Lewis, Lee W. Higgins; 1894, 1895, Edward A. Bishop, Lee W. Higgins, J. E. Cooney; 1896, E. A. Bishop, John E. Cooney, W. D. Healy; 1897, E. A. Bishop, James W. Knox, B. H. White; 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, J. E. Cooney, S. H. Bodurtha, A. W. Lloyd.

Town clerks. James Hazzard, 1742-48; John Knox, 1748; David Boies, 1749-52; David McConoughey, 1752; William Huston, 1753; Robert Black, 1757-57; Robert Henry, 1757-62; William Boies, 1762-66; Robert Blair, 1766; William Boies, 1767-73; Judah Bement, 1773-78; Robert Blair, 1778; David McConoughey, 1779-84; Samuel Sloper, 1784-88; Robert Blair, 1788-94; David McConoughey, 1794-1806; Joseph Bull, 1806-9; Reuben Blair, 1809-11; Alanson Knox, 1811-19; Orrin Sage, 1819-21; Alanson Knox, 1821-30; Russell A. Wilson, 1830-32; Orrin Sage, 1832-36; Samuel S. Day, 1836-38; Orrin Sage, 1838; Enos Boise, 1839-43; Thomas S. Chaffee, 1843-49; David P. Robinson, 1849; Justin Wilson, 1850-52; Thomas S. Chaffee, 1852-54; Watson E. Boise, 1854; Elisha W. Shepard, 1855; Timothy R. Boise, 1856-58; Norman V. Lewis, 1858-65; B. R. Norton, 1865; Elisha W. Shepard, 1866-80; Henry K. Herrick, 1880; Levi D. Tiffany, 1881; Enos W. Boise, 1882 to the present time.

Representatives prior to the division of the county:

To the Provincial Congress—1775: William Knox and William Carnahan.

Gibbs says that "For many years the town could not get any one to accept the office of representative, and as appears from the records, 'voted to send if we can get any one to accept.'" But the following list shows that they could get some to go to the General Court: 1787, Timothy Blair; 1789, John Ferguson; 1792, 1793, 1794, Reuben Boies; 1795 and '96, Jedediah Smith; 1797, Reuben Boies; 1799 and 1801, William Knox; 1803 and 1804, Eli P. Ashmun; 1805 and 1806, David Boies; 1807, Joseph Bull; 1808, Edward Pinchon; 1809, David Boies; 1811, Samuel Knox; 1812, Alanson Knox.

Civil War list. Henry B. Cannon, 10th Mass.; Austin Williams, 10th Mass.; Edwin Jones, 27th Mass.; Harvey De Forest, 27th Mass.; William W. Bracket, 27th Mass.; James Waters, 27th Mass.; Lewis E. Robinson, 27th Mass.; Maxon J. Haley, 27th Mass.; Frank T. Smith, 27th Mass.; David I. Hall, 27th Mass.; Jarvis W. Stewart, 27th Mass.; Lyman B. Cannon, 27th Mass.; Jefferson P. Moore, 27th Mass.; James M. Thompson, 27th Mass.; Henry T. Jackson, 27th Mass. In the 31st Mass. the following names: Alexander H. G. Lewis, Philander Dickinson, Robert McDarby, Geo. Warfield, Geo. W. Griswold, Wm. J. Nye, Luther C. Nye, Elijah Nye, Charles P. Snow, Edward Chapman, Charles Granger. In the 46th Mass., Albert F. Sizer, Leroy Warfield, Chas. Tinker, Jr., Geo. W. Frost, Chas. R. Bemis, Fred Tracy, Peter Hall, Jas. S. Brooks, Edwin E. Gibbs, Chas. B. Hayden, John Aiken, John W. Bradburn, Milo E. Cook, Orlando W. Dayton, Geo. N. Granger, Franklin J. Hall, Benj. P. Kyle, Dwight C. Osborn, Edward Phelps, John T. Linnet, Lewis Herrick. In the 37th Mass., William E. Pease, Frank C. Morse, Wm. A. Waterman. In the 34th Mass., Dighton Goddard, Lester C. Farnum. In the 59th Mass., Thomas Jackson, Edwin Baker, S. W. Burdick. In the 1st Mass. Cavalry, Wm. H. Smith, Franklin L. Cannon, Lewis C. Allen, Judson S. Sizer, Thos. B. Brooks, Ezra J. Dudley, Patrick Ballou, Joseph Kingsley, Edward Norton.

(End of Vol. II)

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